The Middlebury Campus

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Chris Heinrich

Round up a Posse

Middlebury Posse Foundation scholars pose with President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz after returning from their annual retreat, this year entitled "Be a Man, Act Like a Lady: Undressing Gender and Sexuality at Middlebury." The Posse Foundation prepares students from multicultural high schools to enroll in top-tier colleges.

Seniors win coveted Watson Fellowships

By Leslie Lim
Staff Writer

The Thomas J. Watson Foundation has named three Middlebury seniors among its 50 fellows for 2007. The fellowships awarded to Dalal Al-Abdulrazzak, Carolyn Barnwell and Sathyavani Sathisan provide $25,000 grants for a year of independent research and overseas exploration.

Nationally, nearly 1,000 students from 50 participating colleges and universities entered the competition. The 179 finalists competed nationally for a Watson-sponsored year of travel and discovery. The recipients this year hail from 24 different states and seven countries, and will voyage to a combined 90 countries.

The three fellowships received by the seniors ties the College with Williams College and the University of Puget Sound for the most awards received by an institution over the course of a year. This year also marks the 10th straight year that a student from the College has won a Watson fellowship, bringing the total number of College recipients to 25 since 1981.

"I have so much respect for the dedication and hard work that the other three nominees from Middlebury put into their Watson applications," said Sathisan. "All this, of course, would not have been possible without the rah-rah of Karen Guttentag [associate dean of student affairs and head of the selection process this year], who has been an amazing pillar of strength and support throughout the entire process."

This year, the projects of the College's three Watson fellows span a range of subjects and destinations.

Al-Abdulrazzak, a Kuwaiti national and environmental studies and biology major, will pursue her research on shark and stingray conservation efforts in the Bahamas, Fiji, New Zealand, Seychelles and South Africa. According to Al-Abdulrazzak, her decision to focus on the topic stems from a long-time interest in a group of organisms that has been globally misunderstood.

"I was absolutely thrilled and honored," said Al-Abdulrazzak. "It still hasn't hit me yet, and I don't really think I'll fully understand the magnitude of what this means until I do my first dive, see my first shark or stingray, and realize that I get to do this everyday for an entire year."

In high school, Al-Abdulrazzak participated in research at the Scientific Center of Kuwait, the largest aquarium in the Middle East. Al-Abdulrazzak said that the fellowship would afford her an even greater opportunity for exploration.

"It allows me to step outside the traditional role of a scientist and incorporate cultural perspectives into my research," she said. "I want to know how different societies design successful conservation efforts. The Watson Fellowship will give me the opportunity to satisfy that desire and make meaningful connections that will significantly further my lifelong passion for [these organisms]."

Barnwell, an environmental studies and sociology and anthropology major from Concord, N.H., will focus on the effect of climate change.

See Honorees, page 2

Social houses face annual review

By Tom Brant
News Editor

The Community Council's Subcommittee on Social Houses recommended continuing Delta House under the conditions of their 2006 sanctions, at the Council's annual social house review meeting on Monday. The Subcommittee also recommended continuing the other four campus social houses — Omega Alpha, The Mill, Xenia and Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) — with only minor stipulations.

Although Delta may apply for reinstatement next fall, the discussion Monday revealed that it was unlikely Delta would have its own house again before Fall 2008. Room draw for the 2007-2008 academic year will have already occurred before Delta can be reinstated next fall, meaning regular students would have to be rehoused mid-year if Delta were granted a house in September.

Delta was sanctioned by the Inter-House Council (IHC) last spring after a party held at Prescott House, the social house's former home, violated numerous College policies. As a result of the party, Delta was denied residential status and placed on a year-long suspension by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz in June 2006.

Now Delta is working to maintain membership and prepare for rush next fall. Two questions presented to the Council, which will

See Liebowtiz, page 2

Ilhan Kim

(Clockwise from top left)The Mill, Kappa Delta Rho, Xenia and Tavern were all reviewed favorably by the Subcommittee on Social Houses in its annual report to the Community Council on Monday, March 19.

Hageman remembered fondly

By Brian Fung
News Editor

When Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Bob Cluss moved to Middlebury over a decade ago, he had never owned his own home before. So it was a new experience for him when he checked his mailbox for the first time — and made a new friend.

"I discovered I had a mailbox buddy," said Cluss. "His name was Bill."

Bill Hageman and Cluss warmed to each other quickly, greeting each other in the mornings while walking their dogs or collecting their respective newspapers. Often, said Cluss, their greetings would turn into longer conversations, prompting their families to ask, "Where's Dad? Where's Bob?"

"Sometimes it took 15 minutes to get the paper," said Cluss at a memorial service on Sunday held in honor of Hageman, who passed away last Monday after a year-long battle with cancer.

Bill Hageman lived and breathed Middlebury baseball, coaching Little Leaguers, Addison County American Legion players and the College's own baseball team. But Hageman never treated teaching as a job. To him, baseball was always a means to an end, a way to learn important life lessons.

"Everyone talked about how big a commitment that was going to be, Legion baseball," said Doug Denu, a first-year student at St. Lawrence University who once played for Hageman. "But the way [Hageman] orchestrated practices, went about his philosophy, it didn't seem like a commitment at all. It was two hours of playing baseball and doing something you love. He made it fun."

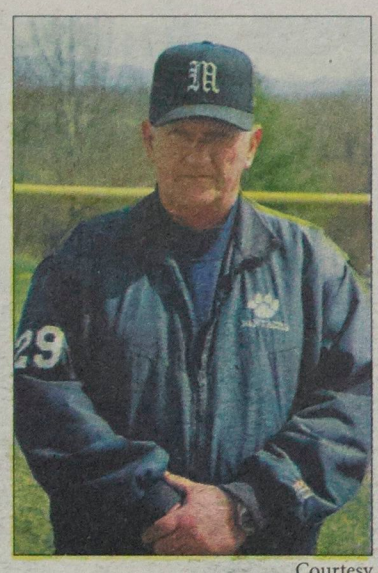
Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson said her children shared a relationship with Hageman that lasted through their college years and beyond.

"We followed him all the way up," said Hanson. "When I think of who has influenced my kids' lives other than family members, he's probably been the most important influence. My younger son ended up pitching in college. My older son went [to Middlebury College] and ended up coaching."

For those who worked with him, Hageman's gentle but authoritative persona formed an integral part of his leadership style.

"He was a good match," said Middlebury Baseball Coach Bob Smith. "He was a quiet guy, and I

See Coach, page 3



Courtesy

Bill Hageman: 12/7/43 - 3/12/07

Students take advantage of new HPV vaccines

By Michelle Constant
Staff Writer

The introduction this past fall of a newly developed vaccine that prevents the contraction of human papillomavirus (HPV) has been met with success, according to Parton Health Center staff, with approxiamately 25 female students receiving the vaccine per week since September.

Gardasil, which first entered the market in the summer of 2006, requires patients to receive three doses to guarantee seroconversion, or the development of specific antibodies to the virus.

According to Terry Jenny, associate director at the health center, many students who received their first dose of the vaccine "have the misconception that they have to return to their doctors at home for all three doses." But with proof of the date of previous doses of the vaccine, students can receive their second or third doses at the College, she said.

The College charges $139 per dose, but does not charge administrative doctor's fees, as with any

See Vaccine's, page 4

this week

shhh...this isn't the library
Find out the best places to study for those upcoming midterm exams, page 14

green with pride
Read about what makes Burlington the "greenest city in America," page 5

tally up your booze bill
Discover the effects that one night of drinking can have on your wallet, page 11

middbriefs

By Dany Noguera-Garces and Sonja Pederson-Green

Sociology survey says students overburdened

Students, and upperclassmen in particular, are overwhelmed by academic work to the exclusion of extracurricular activity, according to a survey being conducted by international studies major Miosotis Perez '07.

Perez' study is part of an annual project by 300-level sociology-anthropology students that assesses issues pertaining to current College students. This year, according to Perez, two Commons Deans were concerned that the increase in workload has put unnecessary stress on students, forcing them to disengage from the extracurricular activities that make the College's students so "well rounded."

"Most organizations tend to be lead by sophomores," said Perez. "Students are focusing on academics so much that they can't do other things."

Perez plans to present her survey to leaders of student groups such as The Sunday Night Group and certain faculty members. Sports team captains as well as some administrators will also be surveyed.

"There is more to learning than just school," said Perez, who attributed a recent increase in the number of students visiting Parton Health Center and seeking counseling to alcohol abuse under stress.

Perez said that once the survey is complete, she hoped the administration would take time to look at the results so that the Middlebury experience "becomes more about actual learning than the grade."

McCardell to launch Web site for non-profit in April

Dina Magaril

President Emeritus and Professor of History John McCardell, Jr. along with his non-for-profit organization Choose Responsibility continues to publicize his campaign to effectively lower the drinking age to 18. On Feb. 18, 2007, McCardell appeared on the Fox News Channel to debate 19-year-old Mothers Against Drunk Driving board member Brian Demers. McCardell argued for the reduction of the drinking age to 18, assuming the 18-year-old takes an alcohol education course. Demers argued that traffic fatalities have decreased since increasing the legal drinking age to 21, and, because of this, the current legal drinking age should be maintained.

Since launching his incorporated not-for-profit organization named Choose Responsibility, McCardell has increased his notoriety as a proponent of lowering the drinking age. In addition to his appearance on Fox News, McCardell also appeared on WPTZ, the Burlington-Plattsburg NBC affiliate. Articles about his organization also appeared in *Inside Higher Education* and a number of college newspapers.

Choose Responsibility will also be launching its website the week of April 9, which it hopes will be the "go-to source" for those hoping to learn more about legal age-18, according to McCardell. Since its launch, Choose Responsibility has made presentations in Denver and other locations across the country. In April, the group will also make presentations at Duke and Dartmouth, and on April 3, they will meet with the South Carolina Policy Council.

Honorees to pursue studies abroad

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She will conduct her research by traveling throughout New Zealand, Tuvalu, Mauritius, the Chagos Archipelago, Micronesia and Palau. She hopes to explore the socio-environmental issue of who becomes responsible for creating a new kind of self-reliance when the resources that allow villagers to rely on themselves are no longer viable. Barnwell recalls the trepidation and excitement of the fellowship notification and all it held.

"We were expecting to receive the notification emails at 3 a.m.," she said. "Starting at 3:01 I kept refreshing my Midd e-mail inbox and nothing was there...every time I refreshed it my stomach flipped...until I realized that I should check my Gmail account. And there it was. I was so flabbergasted I could not stop laughing."

Additionally, Barnwell noted the impossibilities of knowing what effects a Watson year would have on her.

"I like not knowing how my project will affect my future or my career," she said. "The decisions I make and the people I meet along the way will absolutely give me a lot to reflect on. I am looking forward to creating a challenging and meaningful year for myself."

Sathisan, a political science major from Singapore, will explore theater from a socio-political perspective by traveling to Malaysia, India, New Zealand, South Africa and Argentina.

In her academic, extracurricular and personal opportunities, Sathisan has used theater to transcend the typical boundaries of political and ethnic conflict — a strategy that has proven more effective in many cases than discussion alone. Sathisan intends to explore further the interchange between arts and politics, and how theater can effect social changes on scales ranging from local to global.

Ilhan Kim

Angela Evancie

Chris Heinrich

Seniors Carolyn Barnwell, Dalal al-Abdulrazzak and Vani Sathisan (pictured clockwise from top left) were among 50 students nationwide to be awarded a Watson Fellowship.

"I found it fascinating and revolutionary about theater, that in one evening you could assemble people from all walks of life, focus their attention on a political, social or spiritual theme and with creativity subsequently harness their energy to effect change," Sathisan said. "It is most often not merely the entertainment component but what happens post-performance that intrigues me the most."

In preparation for a future involving international and corporate law, Sathisan credits the fellowship for expanding her personal and career-oriented horizons.

"My Watson Fellowship will enable me to employ theatre to understand the causes of societal schisms and the effective means to alleviate them," said Sathisan. "By gaining exposure to both the theoretical and culturally specific dimensions of conflict, I am confident that I will be able to play a significant role in bringing about greater peace both within and between people in areas of conflict and under-development."

The seniors, once they set off for their studies abroad, will be forbidden from returning to the United States for the duration of their research — but if anything, the recipients reacted to that prospect with even more enthusiasm.

"I think it's absolutely fantastic," said Al-Abdulrazzak. "We, along with Karen Guttentag and the Watson Selection Committee have worked incredibly hard all year and it has clearly paid off. Each of our projects is unique and equally meaningful. I can't wait to begin."

Liebowitz to review recommendations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

be ultimately passed on to Liebowitz, were whether Delta could be granted a designated space to conduct rush in the fall, and whether Delta members could live with one another "as friends" in Commons suites.

On Monday, Doug Adams, chair of the IHC and a member of the Subcommittee on Social Houses, told the Council that one reason for recommending Delta be able to hold pledge in the fall was its coordinated volunteer and philanthropic efforts over the past year, which are unusual for a social house.

"In general the social houses don't really do [community service] as a collective, although individual members do," Adams said. "We'd like to encourage them to do more as a group."

The Subcommittee recommended granting Delta a "large social area" on campus from which to conduct their rush and pledge events next year. Proposed locations included the lounge of a Ridgeline house or a Commons Lounge. Delta president Chris Angelini '08, who was present at Monday's meeting, said that he was appreciative of the recommendation, and emphasized that having a space set aside for pledge would be an advantage for Delta.

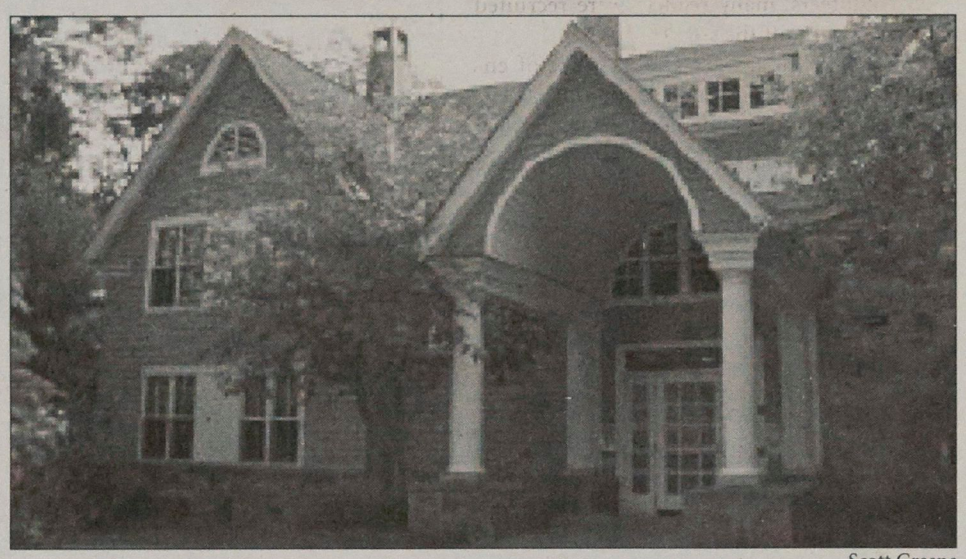
"This is kind of a preparation for us," he said of next fall's rush. "We'll be able to see what we're going to have to do to come back."

But Dean of Student Affairs and Co-Chair of the Council Ann Hanson expressed hesitation over offering Delta a temporary social space within another dorm.

"If I were to draw into Jewett House next year and then find out that Delta with its $1,300 worth of dorm damage was conducting its pledge in my house, I wouldn't be happy," said Hanson.

Trepidation to allowing Delta to hold pledge in the fall stemmed mainly from the dorm damage inflicted by the social house while it had residential status. In the Winter and Spring terms of the 2005-2006 academic year, dorm damage at Prescott totaled nearly $1,400.

Despite the problem of dorm damage and Delta's current suspension, Angelini said that house membership is currently at 52 students, the second largest after Omega Alpha, which has 65 members.



Scott Greene

Delta social house will likely go without its Prescott House, for a third straight semester.

Even though Delta members are living separately this year, house spokesman John Montesanti '07 said that they have continued to hold meetings and organize non-alcoholic events.

"We have continued to meet biweekly as an organization to maintain unity and to continue working towards reinstatement," Montesanti wrote in a statement to Council members. He cited a tailgate party at a home football game, participation in Relay for Life and efforts to become the first carbon neutral social house as some of the group's efforts to remain an active student organization.

Despite hearing recommendations for the continuation of the remaining social houses, the Council considered concerns regarding residency and party issues and heard recommended stipulations for three of the four houses for the 2007-2008 academic year. As a way to address recent problems of reaching residency capacity, the Subcommittee recommended a stipulation that KDR achieve full capacity by March 2007 or face moving to a smaller residential location on campus. Currently, only 12 students reside in KDR out of 17 available beds, making this the eighth year that the house has failed to meet its capacity target.

"We realize that we need numbers to sustain ourselves," said Jessica Weiss '08, the president of KDR. "Distance may be one of the big reasons we're having trouble...getting people to come to parties."

Despite the house's problems of filling beds, the group would not be forced to disband.

Xenia, the only sub-free social house on campus, also faced recommended stipulations related to residency and membership for the coming academic year. The house would be required to achieve gender balance in its membership. Currently, female members of Xenia comprise 74 percent of house membership.

"The biggest issue for [Xenia] is being out of compliance with gender balance rules," said Adams. "Gender balance is something we look at for all student organizations."

In its recommendation for the continuation of Omega Alpha, the Subcommittee stipulated that the house eliminate smoking inside Brackett House, where the organization is currently located. The Subcommittee recommended the Mill for continuation without any stipulations.

The Council's recommendations will now go to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz for final approval.

Students observe Iraq War anniversary

By Brian Fung
News Editor

The hubbub and commotion typically associated with lunch hour at Proctor Dining Hall ceased briefly on Monday afternoon as Daniel Kane '09 stood on a chair and called for attention. Proctor diners then paused in a campus-wide moment of silence meant to honor those who had fallen in Iraq.

Thus did the College mark the fourth anniversary of the United States' second invasion of the Middle East country. Since March 2003, more than 3,500 American soldiers have been killed either as a direct result of hostilities with regular Iraqi forces or due to the ongoing postwar insurgency.

On the Proctor patio, volunteers from the student organization Hope for Peace braved wind and snow as they read the names of American servicemen and Iraqi civilians killed in the violence. Loudly or softly, slowly or quickly, the names were read whether people stopped to listen or not.

"The goal is just to give students a better idea of how many people have been killed in this war," said Jamie Henn '07, "and it's much more powerful to go through name by name as opposed to just reading off the number, '3,500 killed.'"

Henn and others began the memorial readings on Sunday at midnight and continued through the next 24 hours.

"We had two lists," said volunteer Will Bellaimey '10.5, who read from 11:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Monday night. "We had one list that was of U.S. soldiers killed in battle, and the other list was of civilians. I think I read about five or six pages."

The list of Iraqi civilians was especially revealing, according to Henn.

"You realize that these are bakers and TV journalists," he said. "These lists give their occupations and gets these snapshots of people's lives, which is so much more than you usually get in a newspaper."

Though the organization boasts roughly 25 volunteers, many readers were recruited literally right off the street.

"It's exciting," said Henn. "A lot of energy builds up really quickly."

Meanwhile, students walking down Storr's Walk on Monday could hardly help noticing the thousands of tiny American flags poking out of the snow. According to Bellaimey, who helped place the flags, each represents one of the 3,500 U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq to date.

"We tried to get the Arlington Cemetery kind of feeling," said Bellaimey. "In the light, now, it actually looks pretty good."

According to Bellaimey, the idea to commemorate the invasion's fourth anniversary originated with Nate Blumenshine '08, and was a collaborative effort with another group, Iraq Veterans Against the War. The two groups plan to continue their activist efforts in the coming weeks.

"I know some people drove down to DC [for a protest] last weekend," said Bellaimey. "There's also a big rally in Burlington this weekend that anybody not going away for spring break is going to try to go to."

But until then, midterms — and lunch — are likely to remain foremost on students' minds. Once the moment of silence was complete, Kane stepped down off his chair.

"Thank you," he said quietly.

Marie Horbar/Chris Heinrich
3,500 American flags lined Storrs Walk while students read the names of fallen U.S. troops and Iraqi civilians on Proctor Terrace to mark the fourth anniversary of the Iraq invasion.

Coach celebrated as 'leader of men'

Continued from page 1

feel like I'm pretty laid back and quiet too, and so he fed off of me, I fed off of him. Things worked very smoothly between us."

But even more endearing than his disarming friendliness was Hageman's devotion and loyalty to his players. In one season, when he thought the umpire had made a bad call during a game against Williams College, Hageman pursued the umpire far into the outfield to contest it.

"Instead of making a big stink of it, he started walking slowly, meandering his way towards the ump," said Smith. "Well, the ump saw him coming so he went further away. Bill thought, 'I'm not going to let this guy get the best of me, I'm going to defend my player.' The ump finally turned around and said, 'Didn't you get the message that I didn't want you to come and see me?' Bill said, 'You made the wrong call.' And the ump went and tossed him out of the game. Bill was so loyal to his guys that he'd go that far to defend them, back them up all the way."

Hageman's determination and sense of justice spilled over into his life beyond the baseball diamond. While commanding a company of engineers during his time in the military, Hageman was severely punished for insubordination when he refused to carry a group of infantry across a river by boat.

"Bill measured the stream velocity," said a colleague of Hageman's at the memorial service. "It was up to 16 feet per second. His immediate response to the S-3 [the officer in charge of training operations] was, 'Sir, I'll be happy to fly your men across this river, but we're not going to cross in river boats. We'll kill too many of them.' Bill was a leader of men. He was an expert at that."

Smith recalled that Hageman's support for the common individual was driven not just by his humility, but also by a desire to forge lasting relationships, on and off the battlefield.

"Each year he'd take his pitchers out to dinner at Hooters," Smith said to the laughing crowd with a grin. "He told me he loved the food."

Though Hageman was always supportive of his players, an open-heart bypass operation last spring prevented him from accompanying the rest of the Middlebury baseball team on its annual trip to Arizona. While Hageman recovered from the surgery and became well enough to continue working with the team, x-rays taken before the heart operation revealed a tumor that would require chemotherapy treatments.

"The real problem was the chemo," said Smith. "It wore down his white blood cell count to a point where he had no immune system. He went in [to Fletcher Allen Health Center in Burlington] on Thursday. We thought he was going to be out and about after the weekend."

But the suddenness of Hageman's passing on March 12 took all by surprise.

"He was thinking of coming back on Monday and Tuesday," said Smith. "[He] was talking like he was going to go to Arizona with us and everything, still wanted to go with us this Friday."

The night of Hageman's death, Smith notified the rest of the College baseball team in a tear-filled meeting. Despite the loss of a valued mentor and ally, the team plans to attack the upcoming season with renewed resolve.

"We're gonna have to rally the troops a bit, pull together and try to fill the void," said Smith. "We'll have to do a lot more with different things. None of us is going to replace the knowledge that Bill had."

"He'll be gone this year, but in a way, he'll still be around with us," said Denu, explaining that Hageman's advice will continue to resonate with the Legion players this season. "We'll miss the coach, but also the friend. When we play this year, we'll be playing for him."

Hageman is survived by his wife, Candace Hageman, and two brothers, Mike and Tom.

overseas briefing

Party like an animal in the Year of the Pig

By Scott Greene

It's 6 a.m. on Sunday, and the closed glass doors leading to the balcony just off my second floor room can do little to mute the constant explosions outside my dorm. Unable to sleep, I restlessly absorb the cacophony around me, each boom followed by a flash of red and yellow that soon disappears into the dusk sky.

Such a bombardment has served as my wakeup call for the past two weeks. I am not, however, in a war zone. While people in certain areas of the world know of no other start to their day, my morning explosions come in the form of a fireworks celebration that puts our Fourth of July to shame: the Chinese Spring Festival (*Chun Jie*).

Better known to westerners (*wai guo ren*) as Chinese New Year, *Chun Jie* is much more than the dragon dances and little red envelopes of money that we so often hear about. The dragon dances and little red envelopes seem to take a backseat to the fireworks and inordinate amount of booze and food that is consumed to celebrate the abundance of success and luck each person hopes to attain in the New Year.

This year is marked as the Year of the Pig in the 12-year Chinese zodiac cycle — being born in 1986, I am a Tiger. Though probably no different than any other past Spring Festival, it seemed as though all 1.3 billion of China's citizens flocked to the nearest Carrefour or Wal-Mart (yes, they have Wal-Mart here in China) to stock up on MSG, dumplings, shrimp, pork, chicken feet, cow stomach and sharks' fin soup. Liquor is also a necessity, with the staples Bai Jiu and Mao Tai precious commodities.

Thus, the scene inside these megastores is unreal. Picture Black Friday, with three or four times the intensity, every day for over a week, and you still will not be close to envisioning the madness that ensues. I went into the Wal-Mart in Nanjing to buy snacks and drinks to get me through a rainy night in my hotel room, and made it out of the store in no less than an hour.

China has over 100 cities with at least one million people, including Nanjing. That day, it seemed like all 6 million Nanjing residents had crammed themselves into the Wal-Mart, making the three-story megastore (which would put a stateside Wal-Mart Superstore or Target Greatland to shame) seem about as small as MiddExpress.

Still, the Chinese Spring Festival will remain one of the most awe-inspiring festivals I've ever seen. After the people clear out the Carrefour and Wal-Mart, they then clear out of town. During the peak of the fifteen-day food fest, most cities shut down as seas of migrant workers head home to the countryside to celebrate the New Year with their families. Shops close and streets empty, but one thing still remains: the bombardment of fireworks from dawn until dusk, detonating with a deafening determination to disrupt my desire to sleep.

college shorts

by Zamir Ahmed, Associate Editor

New York AG alleges impropriety by lenders

An investigation of student loan providers has found that a number of lenders bribed college officials in exchange for steering business their way, New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo announced in a press conference on May 15.

According to Cuomo, lenders influences colleges through free trips for financial aid employees, as well as providing credit lines for colleges and making donations to institutions that stop participating in government aid programs.

"We have found that these school-lender relationships are often highly tainted by conflicts of interest and, we believe, illegal, deceptive business practices," said Cuomo during the press conference.

Officials for student lenders maintain that their practices are legal and are a way for colleges to better understand the system.

"If some of the things he alleges are true, they ought to be stopped immediately," said Sallie Mae spokesman Tom Joyce in an interview. "We welcome the inquiry and we have cooperated with the investigation."

Although no criminal or civil suits have been fired, the attorney general's office could still pursue legal action against the lenders, according to *CNN*. Currently, 100 colleges are still under investigation while letters have been sent to over 400 institutions warning them that their ties to student lenders could create a conflict of interest.

—CNN.com

Dean in China fired for criticism of restrictions

Zhang Ming, dean of political sciences at Renmin University in Beijing, China, was fired from the post on March 16 after he criticized restrictions on academic freedom in the country in a blog post.

Zhang, who will remain a professor at the university, condemned what he called the "bureaucratization of Chinese colleges" on his popular blog on March 12. Zhang also maintains that he was removed from his post because of an alleged spat with a superior that he described on his blog.

Zhang also maintains that the superior moved to have him removed as dean after Zhang defended a colleague who he believed was wrongfully omitted from a reviewing panel, whose members Zhang felt were selected for their official ranks rather than for their academic contributions, according to *MSNBC*.

Renmin University maintained that Zhang's comments were unfounded on its Web site.

—MSNBC.com

Plattsburgh St. adds first student BSA chapter

Eight students at Plattsburgh State University have created the first student chapter of the Botanical Society of America (BSA) in the nation, pushing the group's national ranks to over 2,400 members.

The student chapter of the society, which is aimed at promoting the study of botany through research, education and communication between experts, was founded by students who are all enrolled in a plant diversity and evolution course taught by Assistant Professor of Biological Studies Christopher Maritime. The group's membership is currently comprised of five biology majors and three environmental science majors, according to the *Cardinal Points*.

"The number one benefit is for students to see what it is like to be part of a scientific community," said Maritime in an interview with the Points. "The annual BSA conference will be held in Chicago this summer. I am hoping we can get a few students out there to represent Plattsburgh State."

—Cardinal Points

Vaccine's cost breeds concerns

Continued from page 1

vaccine offered. Jenny said that most insurance companies cover at least a large portion of the cost of the vaccine.

HPV includes over 100 different strains of one virus, more than 30 of which are sexually transmitted. It affects more than 50 percent of sexually active people over the course of their lifetime, and 80 percent of women by age 50. Most people who become infected with HPV will not show any symptoms, and the virus will eventually disappear on its own. However, some strains of the virus can lead to cancer of the cervix, vulva, vagina, anus or penis, while other lower-risk strains can lead to genital warts.

According to the Department of Health Services Web site, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) approved the use of Gardasil to prevent HPV in June of 2006. The vaccine protects against four HPV types that are known to cause 70 percent of cases of cervical cancer and 90 percent of cases of genital warts.

"The vaccine is so new that people are still developing procedures for administering it," said Jenny. The administration at the College is discussing how to best offer the vaccine. It is not currently stocked on campus because it is very expensive and expires quickly. Students requesting the vaccine must call in a prescription to the pharmacy. The vaccine can then be delivered to the College, to be administered by nurses at the Health Center.

According to Jenny, there are no restrictions on female students who can receive the vaccine. Females aged 12 to 26 are covered under most insurance companies.

"We'll do anything here at the Health Center that is appropriate and reasonable," Jenny said. "It's part of our general policy and protocol for general College healthcare." Gardasil is offered at the College in the same way that available vaccines against all STDs are offered.

"The new HPV vaccine seems to be a great idea," said Director of the Health Center Dr. Mark Peluso. He hopes that the federal Food and Drug Administration will consider approving it for men in the near future as well. According to Peluso, genital warts affect both sexes and homosexual men can also contract anal condyloma through anal sex, which can lead to invasive anal cancer. Condoms and abstinence are currently the only preventative measures available for these men.

Peluso said that the vaccine has not been available long enough to gauge long-term effects, but that the pre-market data seem to indicate it is a safe method of prevention.

However, Jenny emphasized that, even with the introduction of this new vaccine, women should continue to regularly get Pap smears to get screened for cervical cancer. She said that the vaccine only prevents four strains of HPV, and other strains can still be contracted through unprotected sex.

"The biggest controversy surrounding Gardasil is that it is currently the most expensive vaccine on the market," said Elizabeth Lyon '07, one of two co-presidents of Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM). "If my insurance doesn't cover Gardasil, I'm basically deciding between buying books for a semester or protecting myself against cancer." Lyon believes that this is not a decision students should have to make and that, although availability of the vaccine is crucial, it also needs to be made more affordable.

Despite student complaints of the vaccine's cost, the College has no plans to offer completely free vaccinations in the near future. Meanwhile, some states are considering passing legislation that would make the HPV vaccine a school requirement, much like the measles vaccine. On February 5, Texas Governor Rick Perry issued an executive order requiring all schoolgirls to receive the HPV vaccine before entering the sixth grade.

What you need to know about the HPV virus...

- There are over 100 different strains of the virus
- One out of every two sexually active people will contract the virus over the course of their lifetime
- 80 percent of women by age 50 will contract the virus
- The virus can cause cervical cancer
- Most infected with HPV do not show symptoms,
- Often the virus disappears on its own

...and how to get a vaccine.

- To obtaine a vaccine, students must call in a prescription to a pharmacy
- The vaccine can then be delivered to the College, to be administered by nurses at the Health Center

Brainerd Par-tay

Angela Evancie

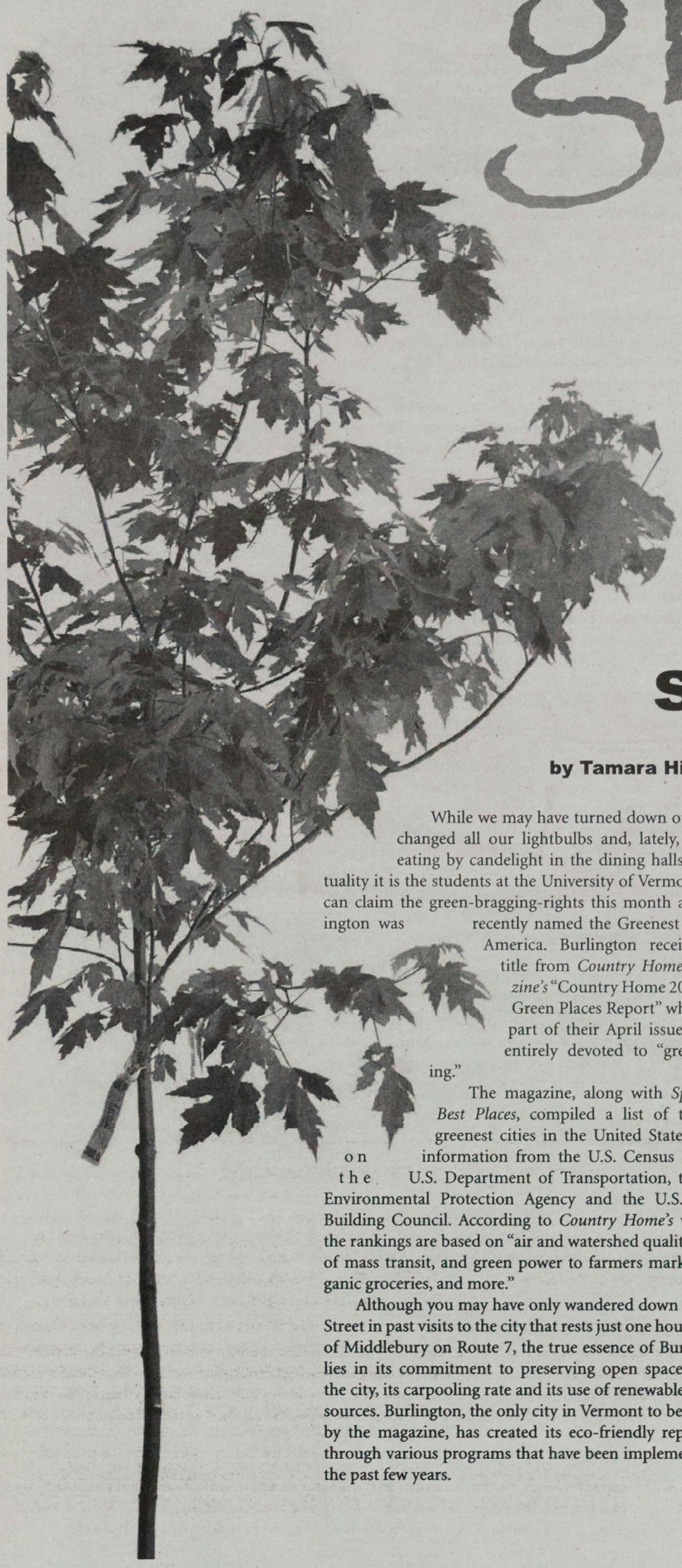
Genius Cave rocks out at the Brainerd Commons Spring Extravaganza in Ross Dining Hall on March 17. The annual performance by Irish Anonymous and MCAB's comedy show in McCullough Student Center also helped students celebrate St. Patrick's Day in style.

public safety log

March 12 - March 18, 2007

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
3/12/2007	Unknown	Theft	Cables	Proctor	Referred to MPD
3/14/2007	2:08 p.m.	Weapon Possession	Spent ammunition	Sunderland	Referred to Commons Dean
3/15/2007	3:10 p.m.	Vandalism	Graffiti	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
3/16/2007	12:55 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Coffrin	Referred to Commons Dean
3/16/2007	Early morning	Theft	Cell phone	Off-campus	No suspects
3/17/2007	12:00 a.m.	Vandalism	Graffiti	Hadley	No suspects
3/17/2007	11:40 p.m.	Vandalism	—	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
3/17/2007	Unknown	Vandalism	Egg on door	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
3/18/2007	2:18 a.m.	Vandalism	Poster	McCullough	Referred to Commons Dean
3/18/2007	12:35 a.m.	Vandalism	Wall and wall lamp	Ross	Referred to Commons Dean
3/18/2007	8:00 p.m.	Theft	Personal clothing	Forest	Referred to Commons Dean

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 11 alcohol citations between March 12 and March 18.



green is grand

Burlington tops magazine survey

by Tamara Hilmes, Local News Editor

While we may have turned down our heat, changed all our lightbulbs and, lately, started eating by candlelight in the dining halls, in actuality it is the students at the University of Vermont who can claim the green-bragging-rights this month as Burlington was recently named the Greenest City in America. Burlington received its title from *Country Home Magazine's* "Country Home 2007 Best Green Places Report" which is a part of their April issue that is entirely devoted to "green living."

The magazine, along with *Sperling's Best Places*, compiled a list of the 379 greenest cities in the United States based on information from the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Green Building Council. According to *Country Home's* website, the rankings are based on "air and watershed quality, miles of mass transit, and green power to farmers markets, organic groceries, and more."

Although you may have only wandered down Church Street in past visits to the city that rests just one hour North of Middlebury on Route 7, the true essence of Burlington lies in its commitment to preserving open space within the city, its carpooling rate and its use of renewable energy sources. Burlington, the only city in Vermont to be ranked by the magazine, has created its eco-friendly reputation through various programs that have been implemented in the past few years.

One of the areas in which Burlington topped other American cities was through its programs related to the food industry. According to the *Associated Press*, "The Burlington metropolitan area's 16 farmers' markets, five organic producers and three food co-ops" helped the city top the list. The city's laws prohibiting the use of pesticides on public land and waterways also raised the score of Vermont's largest city.

Burlington also boasts "a compost facility that collects food scraps from restaurants, supermarkets and food manufacturers and sells the compost to farmers, gardeners and landscapers."

Additionally, The city also has a program in place called "Burlington Legacy," a program that, according to the city's website, was developed in 1999 to "help maintain those qualities that we all cherish about our city, and create a comprehensive plan to guide change for the economic, environmental, and social health of Burlington for years to come." Burlington Legacy encompasses a broad range of councils and committees that all work together to uphold the city's reputation as not only "green," but also as being a livable city, for offering a vibrant lifestyle and for being a place where people can choose to raise families."

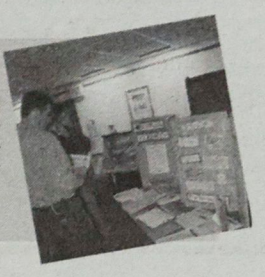
Burlington's debut as America's most earth-friendly place to live comes just before Earth Day, the national holiday instituted in 1970 to bring about national awareness of the environment, takes place each year on March 21, the first day of spring.

In celebration of both their top ranking and the annual holiday, the citizens of Burlington are continuing to lead a lifestyle that leaves the rest of the nation "green" with envy.

Can you hear me now?
town gains cell phone providers, page 6

The local flavor
it is raining paninis and potato soup at the Storm Café, page 6

hot [chocolate] debate
locals gather at library for heated conversation, page 7



THE LOCAL FLAVOR

stormcafé

by Jack Lysohir

Before I came to Middlebury College for my first year, my high school history teacher, a Middlebury alum, told me to "get to Storm Café, it's the best restaurant in the whole world." Having spent a good deal of my Feb semester in European capitals, I thought little of my professor's assertion when I first set foot in the restaurant on the banks of Otter Creek. But to his credit, Storm Café has been my favorite dining experience in Middlebury for the last three years.

While Storm Café has been through more than one set of owners, the restaurant has always been true to its roots — delicious, innovative American cuisines with all the trappings of local farms and gardens. Storm serves lunch and dinner daily from Tuesday to Saturday.

The lunch menu consists of soups, Storm's famous salads and unique, delectable sandwiches. The Roasted Garlic and Potato Soup is the best in Vermont. The Harvest Panini is a great sandwich option and more than a step above any Proctor concoction. The panini boasts sliced honey-peppered Turkey breast and smoked gouda cheese along with roasted root vegetables and caramelized onions stuffed onto ciabatta bread with an apple-cranberry chutney warmed in a panini grille. The Astoria is an equally incredible sandwich, apple-wood smoked chicken sausage pan seared with Granny Smith apples, featuring red onion, gorgonzola and baby arugula on toasted baguette with a whole-grain mustard spiked walnut-sage aioli. Wow.

The dinner menu contains the same soup and salad selections, but also includes some other choice appetizers. Prince Edward island mussels steamed in a cacophony of flavors — white wine, chili broth, ginger, garlic, cilantro — are wonderful. Storm's trademark "smashed potatoes" aren't your average Thanksgiving fare — these have carmelized onions, roasted garlic, bacon and vermont chevre.

Storm's entrees are strong, but almost always too big. The Penne Carbonara is a perennial favorite and is absolutely delicious, filled with far more exciting flavors than a traditional Italian Penne, however the serving is good for two. The savory Red Chili Rubbed N.Y. Strip Steak is usually a great cut and cooked well, but here (and also in the Moroccan Braised Lamb Shank) Storm confuses the flavor, especially on the sides, with roasted pumpkin and three onion chutney in a wild turkey bourbon spiked apple puree — a little too much going on for a nice cut of steak.

The Storm desserts are to die for, but avoid death and split them. The Creme Brulée is the size of a regular dish and the Snickers Sundae is a foot high.

Storm is one of the best spots for lunch in Middlebury. And as for an evening meal, Storm is unbeatable in Middlebury. The intimate setting with small candles and red hues on the walls makes it a favorite for coeds. A full meal at Storm including something from their decent wine selection and their variety of local Vermont brews may get expensive, but it'll probably be worth it.

Middlebury residents no longer 'wired'

By Kelly Janis
Local News Editor

This winter, Middlebury was infused with a burst of technological savvy when Sprint Nextel and Verizon Wireless set up shop alongside Unicel to vie for the town's wireless loyalties. This spurt of cell phone providers leaves Middlebury locals with a dizzying conundrum: which carrier to choose?

Middlebury's Verizon Wireless store performs a variety of functions. "We start new service. We upgrade current existing accounts. We sell accessories. Basically, we do everything a corporate center would do, except for repairs," said Rob Loyzelle, the sole sales associate at the franchise, which opened on Dec. 7, 2006. "It was independent market research that made us decide that this would be a prime area for a Verizon location."

Judy Brim and her husband Bill opened Middlebury's Sprint Nextel store on the Friday after Thanksgiving. "We have operated out of our home in New Haven for three and a half years, selling Nextel," Brim said. "Then, when the merger happened, we started taking on the Sprint side of things. Now, we're doing both."

Meanwhile, Terrapin Communications, a Unicel authorized agent, stands in the same Court Street location which it has occupied for the past three years. Terrapin president Christopher K. Thiesen is undaunted by the raising of the competitive stakes. "My customers have stayed with me," he said, adding that, since Verizon and Sprint Nextel moved in, he has, in fact, seen a 20 percent increase in the number of new customers porting in phone numbers originating from other carriers.

Loyzelle, Thiesen and Brim each offer compelling arguments for why their store trumps the alternatives.

"We're the largest cell phone company in America," Loyzelle said of Verizon. "We have nationwide coverage, whereas our other competitors don't. Our phones, generally speaking, work a lot better overall than our competitors' phones do. There are no hidden charges in any of our bills, whereas our competitors throw in tons of hidden charges. That's how I get customers from other companies. They'll come in and say, 'well, I got charged for this and this and this and they didn't explain to me why.'"

"Competition is good," Brim shrugged. "But we have different items and services." She emphasized Sprint Nextel's efforts to enhance its products by implementing built-in MP3 players, broadband internet connections and equipment such as Blackberries which incorporate a whirlwind of amenities in a single unit. "A lot more consumers want something like that in their hand, so they can have a fun little tool to play around with," Brim said.

Like Brim and Loyzelle, Thiesen emphasizes the distinctness of his business from the competition. "Unicel has a different mentality. We are not a nationwide network, so we think on a more local basis. We want to make sure our signal is present in all the little towns," he said. "We have the best signal strength, and we take care of our customers."

What do these customers have to say?

"Sprint has decent coverage in and around the heart of Middlebury, including most of campus," said a post on the "Cell Phone Coverage—Middlebury, VT" message board at www.cellreception.com.

Another poster countered this claim. "Seven Sprint company phones have gone dead for several days at a time from our home base in Middlebury, VT. Stuff happens, but what is disturbing is that the phones display several bars (a false indication of service)."

"No doubt Verizon has dominated the cell industry as far as Vermont goes," wrote another Middlebury resident. "I work at a motel in Middlebury and I hear from many travelers how their cell has unreliable service. Not one of them had Verizon. I have no idea if Verizon is as great in any other state, but here, no doubt!"

Andrew Ngeow
Sales associate Rob Loyzelle speaks with a customer at Verizon's new Court Street franchise.

Disagreement ensued on the message board. "Verizon stinks out here. We just dropped our service."

The College takes a noncommittal stance on the merits of the opposing companies on the orientation website's "What To Bring" primer. "At present we find that Verizon Wireless and Unicel offer the best reception and service plans for the Middlebury area," it reads. Nonetheless, it continues, "Nextel and Sprint PCS also have reception in Middlebury."

Given the flurry of ambivalent reviews, all three carriers remain in the running as feasible recourses for wireless fanatics.

Brim admitted that she was originally "iffy" about Sprint Nextel's Merchant's Row location. The passage of time, however, has quelled her worries. "We have no complaints," she said. "The location is great."

Though Loyzelle was confident that his Court Street store front would attract customers with its prominent positioning, he too was concerned about making local residents aware of its presence. "I had pushed for some advertising, but my idea was shot down," he said, "We just came in and slapped the 'grand opening' signs on. We're in a prime location and have a great parking lot." As a result, Loyzelle said, "I would have liked to have seen some advertising done, but business has been phenomenal."

College students constitute an appreciable sliver of cell phone users. Andrew Matson '09 provided evidence for this fact at lunch time on Friday, when he was perched at Verizon's counter, learning strategies for transferring numbers from his now defunct phone into one he had just purchased.

"I needed a new phone, and I heard this place was in the area. It sounded convenient, so I came up here," Matson said.

Though he was pleased with his purchase, not everyone is as satisfied by the store's offerings.

"I wouldn't say I'm anti-Verizon, but I was slightly disappointed with their service," said Chalene Pek Yin Chi '10, after she was informed of the franchise's inability to perform repairs. "I had expected a Verizon store to have been able to help much more than just tell me to bring it to a technician in Burlington."

In spite of this, Matson was optimistic about the store's prospects for success. "I think they'll do well. The demand among college students is definitely high."

Up to this point, however, Loyzelle has not seen this demand reflected in the stream of customers trickling through his door. "Surprisingly, it's more working class people, more business professionals," he said. This fact stands in opposition to his prior expectations. "When I first came into the market, I thought it would be straight out college kids all the time, and surprisingly, college kids make up less than 25 percent of my current customer base. Hopefully, that will change."

Thiesen has witnessed a similar dynamic at Unicel. "I think the College does everything it can to keep kids on campus," he said, noting that while he boasts a number of faculty patrons, College students are conspicuously absent from his customer base. Thiesen is hard at work to rectify this. "I'm working to put together some sort of package, where you can show your Middlebury ID and get discounts," Thiesen said. He plans to present the plan to the College within the month.

Ultimately, the stores' presence in Middlebury saves residents the hassle of commuting elsewhere.

"If you want Verizon service and you don't choose Middlebury, it's either a drive to Burlington or a drive to Rutland. If you choose to do your business here, there's usually no waiting and I try as hard as I can to find the best phone for you," Loyzelle said. "I've done a lot of research in terms of which phones work better than others. So I think that when customers come in, they're getting the best product for them."

Brim, too, ensures that her customers walk away with the most suitable purchase, regardless of whether it comes from her store. "With all of us out here, we're just offering the best for the customer, giving them choices," she said. "Where one carrier might not have coverage, the other may. And if I know somebody from another area would be better off with Unicel, I'll send them to Unicel. I believe in not setting somebody up with something they can't use. I will not sell to people who 'kind of' have service, or may not have service at all." Consequently, the store offers a "demo program" in which customers may sample a phone of their choice for 24 to 48 hours in order to gauge whether it meets their needs.

"Some people want to sell you a phone and then wash their hands of it," Thiesen said. "If you have a problem, I'm not going to tell you to call a customer service representative. I'm going to take care of it."

As Thiesen strives to maintain his business traction, the newcomers on the wireless scene plot their advances.

Loyzelle has more than a few lofty ambitions where the future of his business is concerned. "I would like to make this the number one Verizon outlet in Vermont," he said. "I was the number one salesperson in the entire state of Vermont for January, and the way March has been going, I'll probably be number one for March, too."

Brim, on the other hand, is less fazed by matters of competition. Instead, she and her husband strive above all else to craft a warm, family-oriented atmosphere. "Bill and I treat it as if family were coming in to purchase phones," Brim said. "We like to stay as small as we can. We don't have people busting down the doors, but my client base is happy that we're here."

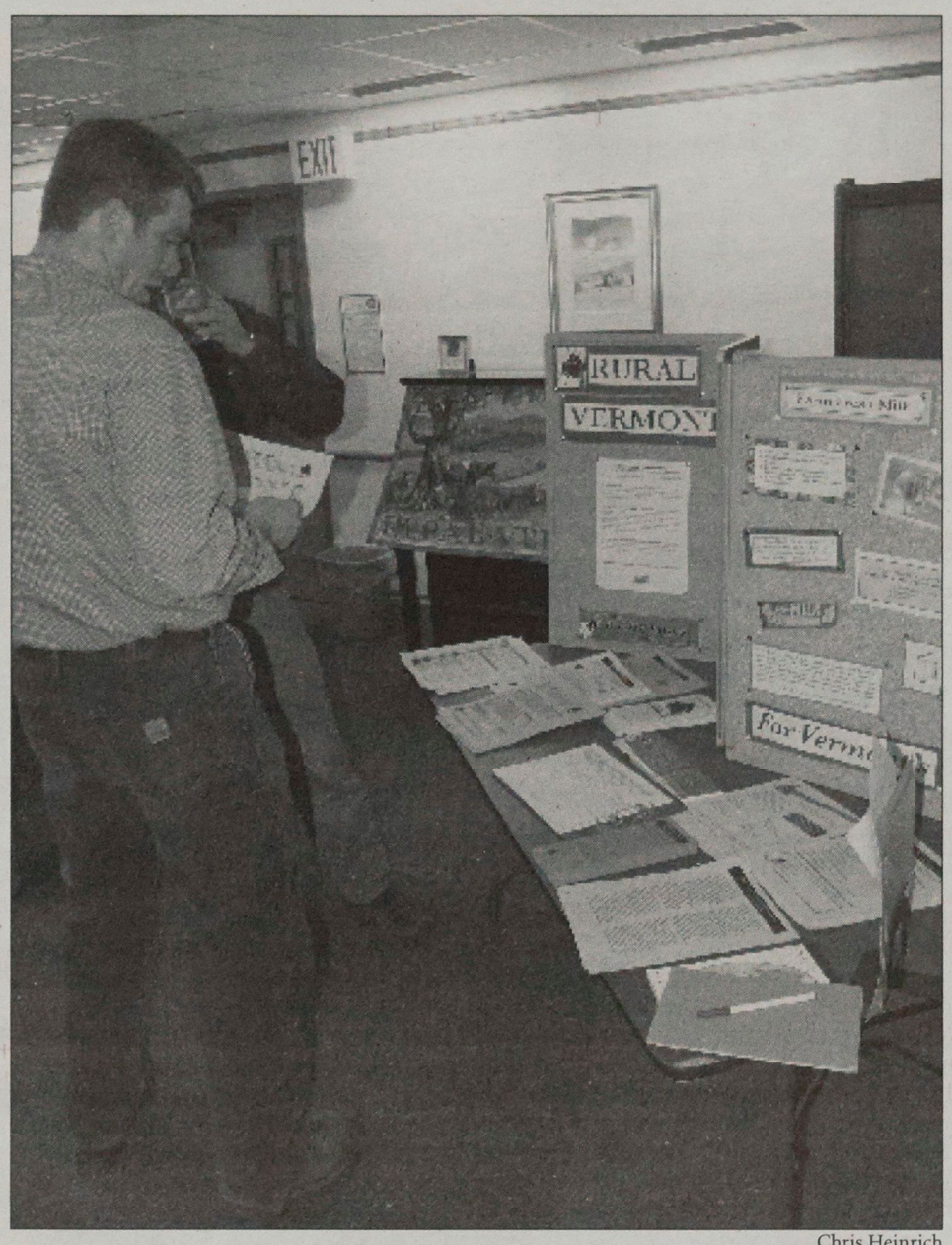
Such happiness is a sentiment which Brim expects will endure. "We are bound by our cell phones," she said. "We would be lost without them."

Poultry and chocolate at Ilsey make one hot combo

By Emma Moros
Staff Writer

On Thursday night, in the typically serene basement of Ilsley Public Library, farmers made livestock deals while children played with puzzles and everyone sipped on hot chocolate made with local farm fresh milk. The uncharacteristic liveliness can be attributed to Rural Vermont's Hot Chocolate Social, a family get-together intended to meld entertainment and earnest discussion to make strides in mediating challenges beleaguering local farmers.

Rural Vermont is a privately funded advocacy group that works with policy makers in the Vermont State House to support the interests of small, rural farmers. Its mission is concentrated primarily in the area of what members call "economic justice."



Chris Heinrich

Local farmers congregate to discuss agricultural triumphs, challenges and goals.

The group funded twelve Hot Chocolate Socials statewide with the purpose of "offering an opportunity for people to know that they can talk to Rural Vermont and communicate with the Agriculture Committee," said Amy Schollenberger, one of the event's coordinators.

In the absence of the Committee, those who attended the event took advantage of the opportunity to talk to one another. The thick hum of Vermont accents filled the room as farmers discussed the difficulty of slaughtering poultry and selling raw milk.

A former Middlebury student named Alex pointed out the fundamental issue of farming as it relates to Middlebury College. Alex worked in the Organic Garden while attending Middlebury and presently works on a local farm. "Farming is something that most students just don't know about despite the fact that it literally surrounds the College," he said.

Schollenberger delivered a talk which highlighted issues of particular concern to farmers. Currently, Rural Vermont is working on campaigns to promote farm-fresh milk and meat. These campaigns seek to make it easier for farmers to sell their products directly. Farmers can only sell the unpasteurized milk which is preferable for cheese making and tied to the organic foods movement in limited quantities. Consequently, Rural Vermont is in its second year of a five-year campaign to allow farmers to sell, advertise and deliver unlimited quantities of raw milk. However, no progress has been made.

Rural Vermont has, however, achieved success in the area of meat processing. One of the main issues the organization sought to address in the past year was the federal government's proposed initiative to tag every farm animal with an identification chip. According to a pamphlet distributed by Rural Vermont "If this [animal identification] program [were] implemented many small-scale meat, milk, and egg producers [would] simply go out of business rather than deal with overly burdensome regulations." Efforts on the part of the farmers to overturn the identification were successful and the program became voluntary. In addition, the state government did not accept federal funding that would have required them to advertise the voluntary program.

There is still work to be done regarding poultry regulations. Currently, the federal government does not require farmers with fewer than 1,000 poultry to have their poultry slaughtered at a federally approved slaughterhouse. Instead, farmers with fewer than 1,000 poultry can slaughter them on their own and sell them to non-resale outlets such as restaurants. In Vermont, however, the limit is even lower than the federal limit. Rural Vermont has therefore set a goal to raise the state limit to match the federal limit.

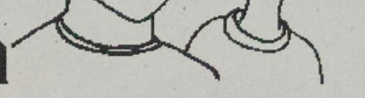
The provision to raise the limit is in the Omnibus Agriculture Bill that is currently being debated, but according to Schollenberger, it most likely will not survive the passage of the bill. If it does survive, many farmers will immediately be able to sell more of their poultry, a prospect that excites both consumers and producers.

Despite all of Rural Vermont's successes, one attendee who asked not to be identified noted that the group offered few suggestions for concrete action.

Another attendee who hails from a family of dairy farmers expressed a similar complaint, explaining that the independent nature of farming makes it difficult to organize as a cohesive whole. In his view, the most pressing issue facing farmers with small farms is the fact that they cannot slaughter their relatively sparse selection of animals. Small dairy farmers do not need many bulls, for instance, and paying for them to be slaughtered at an approved slaughterhouse can pose a significant financial burden. In addition, there are not many of these approved slaughterhouses available.

With so many problems facing the farming community, one arrives at the inevitable question: "What can the community do?" The same attendee who posed the question offered a solution. "Colleges like Middlebury and UVM should buy local poultry and meat directly from the farmer," she said. "Regulations allow them to do this and they could make a big dent."

Neil & Otto's pizza



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WANT TO STAY IN MIDDLEBURY FOR ANOTHER YEAR?

Now Hiring
LIS Graduate Interns
2007-2008 Academic Year
40 Hours per week

Library and Information Services is planning to hire three graduate interns next fall. These positions are for ten months and would provide recent graduates of Middlebury College with a variety of project experiences within LIS departments. Please make an appointment with Barbara Doyle-Wilch, Dean of Library and Information Services (802-443-5490) if you are interested or send your resume to bdoylewi@middlebury.edu

Media Services – this intern must have some digital media production experience. This person would provide videography support and would research and recommend options for hosting for streaming video, to help us find innovative service choices.

Systems and Infrastructure - Seeking a strong computer intern to provide creative energy and perspective, as well as some additional assistance in the network and security realms.

Research and Instruction – Seeking intern to work in Armstrong Library and provide support with GIS applications to both faculty and students.

The Middlebury Campus

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The staff editorials represent the official opinions of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the Editorial Board and drafted by the Opinions Editors.

Rush or relent

The jolt of energy the new Febs usually bring still has not pulled Middlebury out of a social life slump that seemed to begin early last year. To be sure, the twin evils of a snowy St. Patrick's day and midterm exams have added to this current sentiment. But it seems that more students are lamenting the utter boredom of St. Patrick's day and not merely the cold.

Social Houses, the College's answer to the anachronistic frat scene of the early 1990s, have now been the sole provider of Middlebury's truly "college" parties for over a decade. This past week saw the release of the 2006 Report to the Community Council by the Council's Subcommittee on Social Houses, detailing the current state of the social house system. But in the wake of President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's decision to suspend Delta House, and news that KDR has been asked to consider a relocation, the report presented to the Community Council represents, at best, an uncertain future for the social house system.

Because Delta cannot apply for reinstatement until the fall, by which time any available housing will already be filled through room draw, in all likelihood the social house will not really be eligible for a new home until Fall 2008.

KDR is also in a tricky situation — the house has been unable to fill beds at its current 48 South Street residence, and has been asked to consider another location on campus.

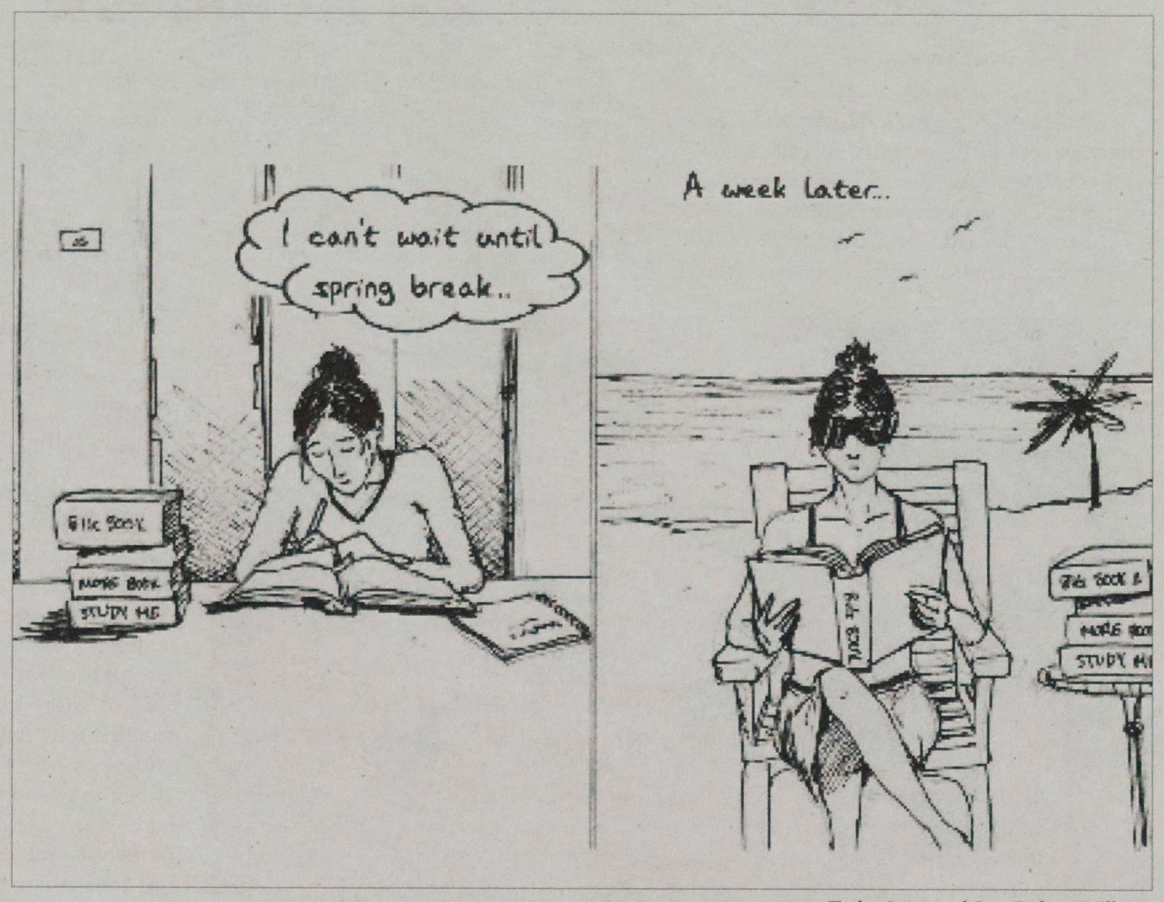
Even Xenia, the lone sub-free social house, is facing its own challenges. The female-heavy organization is in violation of social house policies which require a relatively even gender balance in the house membership.

What the report really shows, however, is not shortcomings of the social houses, but a lack of support from students who seem too busy complaining about social life to try and actively shape it.

Whether or not the social house system is ideal, it is what we have to work with. If students believe in the social houses, they need to start actively supporting them before they are gone.

If you want to be a hero, try rushing KDR before low membership forces them to move out of their historic home. If you're a single man looking for ladies, there is no shortage of them waiting for you to rush Xenia. The housing snob in you might check out Tavern, the only remaining social house with a classy Ridgeline home. There's The Mill for the artist in you and Delta for the athlete, though either will likely welcome whoever walks into their next event.

There will always be a gulf between what social options the College can offer through the Commons and what private students can offer from their dorm rooms. This social life gap is where the social houses are meant to offer creative, all-campus events, but the report this week on the current status of the social houses shows they need student involvement and support now more than ever to survive and prosper. Anyone who is criticizing the social house system should take the opportunity to fix it. We hope students will.



Taylor Long and Sam Dakota Miller

letters to the editor

To the Editor:

As a former double major, I must disagree with some of the objections raised in this past week's editorial about reductions in multiple majors. I fully support the deadline for a declaration of a double major in the fourth semester. Students are free to drop their second major at anytime, provided that they will have time to complete at least one. There is nothing in these recommendations stopping them from declaring a major in something before they go abroad. If they take something abroad that they've never taken at Midd, completing a major in your final two or three semesters will come at the expense of a broad base of a liberal arts education, which is the College's mission, and rightly so. Furthermore, if students are truly "inspired" by their experiences abroad, then the fact that they won't be able to declare a major in it won't stop them from taking courses. If they can't be bothered, then we are right to take the stress of planning extra seminars off the backs of faculty and staff.

Sincerely,
Jason Siegel '06
Orange, Conn.

To the Editor:

Sports coverage in the *Campus* this year has been deplorable, virtually ignoring the Swim and Dive season. The staff reminded readers of the men's team's mistake last year, while failing to note the Panthers' accomplishments this year. Fifty-four swimmers and divers trained very hard all year, and they deserve equal coverage in Middlebury's student newspaper.

I will address only a few of the many mistakes the *Campus*'s sports writers made this year. Firstly, they failed to report on not one, but two away meets. At the Hamilton meet, Midd won every event and Katie Soja '10 broke the Hamilton pool record in the 1000-yard freestyle.

Secondly, the heading "Williams Laps Middlebury" diminished the women's team's successes at the NESCAC championship meet. The Panthers led the meet at times in the closest conference meet in the past four years. More Middlebury swimmers were selected for All-Conference, and thirty-seven women finished top-eight, but this information was missing from the article.

Finally, the most glaring omission was the story on the National Championship, which was covered in a Sports Brief.

Naturally, we do not compete in swimming for the glory of an article in the newspaper. We train because we love swimming. In the future, the writers could talk to the captains; interview the coaches, or even go to a swim meet, to avoid such glaring omissions. I can only hope that the coverage of the Men's NCAAs will be deserving of efforts and accomplishments at the meet and throughout the season.

Sincerely,
Colleen Fitzharis '07
Seattle, Wash.

campus policies and information

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notes from the desk: **Tom Brant**

Fix your own clocks, Helpdesk

Do you ever get the feeling that time is moving really slowly? I do. All the time. That's why I figured that there was nothing out of the ordinary when I finished my midterm essay last Wednesday at 11:45 p.m., according to the clock on my library computer. I figured that I had been typing so furiously in my cubicle on the second floor that I had somehow warped the passage of time into slow motion. Hey, anything's possible.

But then I heard that voice over the loudspeaker that all Midd night owls dread: "The library will be closing in fifteen minutes."

Wait. What? The computer says it's only 11:45! But then I checked the clock on my cell phone and discovered that it was actually 12:45 a.m. That's right: four days after the beginning of daylight savings time, the folks at LIS still hadn't gotten around to changing the computer clocks. *Four days.* No wonder my classes were empty on Monday and Tuesday. People were probably blissfully typing away, unaware that the clock at the bottom of their screen was about as accurate as Dick Cheney shooting a gun.

What's worse is that the LIS helpdesk sent out an e-mail on March 5 reminding students about the new daylight saving time. The e-mail warns students that if they don't change the clocks on their personal computers, they might miss important appointments. Duh.

Come on, Helpdesk, get your act together. If you can remember to tell us to change our clocks, you can change yours too. And complicated server clock upgrades aren't an excuse, because changing a computer clock by hand isn't that time consuming. We know, because you told us to do it. Middlebury students may be smart, but if we don't know what time it is when we're in the library, we'll never get anywhere.

Tom Brant is a first-year and News Editor from Portland, Ore.

op-ed: **David Infante**

What happened to ClubMidd?

I was accepted to Middlebury College a little over a year ago and I was thrilled. To be honest with you, I felt as though I was en route to flavor country, wherever that nebulous region of the nation may be. I mean, this place touts itself as ClubMidd, which at the time of my acceptance seemed to be a cute little pun. Any place that implies its position in the American collegiate community as analogous to an international chain of all-inclusive resorts clearly must have some reason to do so. I got here, unpacked my bags and settled in, ready for the free drinks and the jetski rides, but after two semesters, the level of boredom I have been subjected to is roughly as high as Robert Downey Jr., pre-Ally McBeal. I chose to apply to Middlebury last year because it appeared to have the blend of academics, athletics and social life I sought. From the outside looking in, Middlebury has every appearance of a "work hard, play hard" school, but in my time here, the weekends have offered nothing but consistent and largely unbridled disappointment regardless of semester or season.

The social scene here consists of options that, from what I gather, fall into two convenient categories. On one hand, you have the "alternative experience" state of affairs, which generally consists of some sort of student band playing their take on Phish's Phinal Pharewell. This type of event is in direct competition with other gripping and distinctly MCAB-type opportunities. These inclue Viva Ross Vegas and the recent and delightful $6,000 Brainerd Party, after leaving which I have been unable to think about anything save the fact that $6,000 was spent on what appeared to be the same moonwalk that I wanted but did not get for my fifth birthday party. Seriously, I don't know who had a hand in planning that fiasco, but I would talk to the rental company if I were you because the $6,000 virtual car game required about $6,000 worth of repairs. Pub Night? Get ready for more alt-rock. If you want to watch a game on the big screen you better be able to pick Dick Vitale's voice out over the din of Alanis Morrisette's "Latest and Greatest" emanating from the stage. Either that or you could sleep in some sort of igloo/wigwam concoction along with half the residents of Weybridge House during Get Outside week. Fine, the organized events are subpar. What's Option B, you ask?

The second route you can take as a freshman here at Middlebury, is to drink heavily and pray to God that Public Safety decides not to grace you with their presence on that specific evening. For example, two weekends ago, the hockey team won their final home game of the season, so I figured (despite the almost-insurmountable empirical evidence I have amassed to the contrary over the past seven months now) that the campus might get a little wild that night. I'm no expert on higher education, but I was under the impression that when your team wins a big game, parties happen.

I'm not going to catalogue my night for you step-by-step because it was so unremittingly discouraging that via text it might literally bore you to death. But for the sake of argument, that Saturday night was the lowest, most unbelievably uneventful night I have experienced since freshman year of high school. I'll go out on a limb here and say that a good game of Scrabble in conjunction with C-Span on loop at the regional nursing home would have been more exciting than a Saturday in our little slice of paradise. I mean honest to God, before I came here I had no inkling of a warning that on Saturday night at Middlebury, the only thing going on campus was some sort of "International Dance Party Extravaganza" and roughly two rooms of limited capacity playing drinking games surreptitiously before Public Safety felt the need to shut it all down — at 12 a.m. As I watched two Public Safety officers move about the crowd of people standing in the halls checking IDs, I remembered why I don't bother getting excited for the weekends here. There's no reason to lie to myself anymore.

Before I came here, I did not support the idea of fraternities. In fact, the absence of Greek life on this campus was originally one of the main reasons I chose Middlebury. However, now that I've seen the general malaise with which this institution handles any given Friday or Saturday night, I have begun to recognize the purpose fraternities serve on campus. With an administration that refuses to honor any sort of gray area concerning alcohol on a college campus, and social houses that are either shut down or unwilling to throw big parties, this place lacks any such catalyst to elevate the social experience. Coupled with an ambitious alcohol policy that prohibits drinking in first-year dorms, the only recourse for first-year students interested in a conventional college experience involves drinking vigorously and in secret before venturing out to a party at which they cannot get served.

So, with the end of my first year in site, I've given some serious thought to the whole "ClubMidd" issue. I feel as though I've been cheated out of a quarter of my undergraduate career. I came to this place because I thought it stood for the type of raucous college experience that simultaneously incorporates both rigorous academics and an active social scene, but after almost a year here, the term "ClubMidd" has become my punch line to the joke that is the Middlebury party scene, rather than a dubious moniker I would wear with pride. This school is slated to overtake Williams as the No. 1 "Work Hard, Work Harder" school on the Eastern Seaboard, but my disappointment in this place far overwhelms my irritation with it. All I can say is that I did not sign up for this. And I have yet to receive either a free drink or a jetski ride.

David Infante is a Freshman from Chester, NJ.

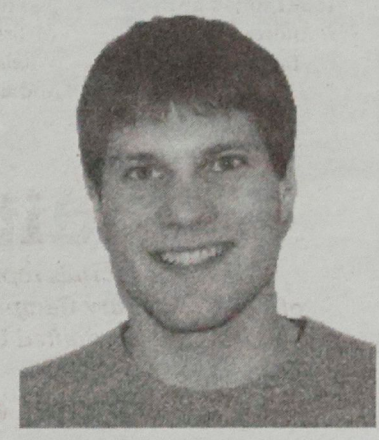
heardoncampus

"If my insurance doesn't cover Gardasil, I'm basically deciding between buying books for a semester or protecting myself against cancer."

— Elizabeth Lyon '07 , co-president of Feminist Action at Middlebury, commenting on the HPV vaccine, Gardasil.

more matter: **Matty Van Meter**

Check the Commons



There has been quite enough wishful thinking from Old Chapel and from the various Commons offices about the "integral role" which the Commons are supposed to be playing in students' lives. It is pervasive. It is in e-mails, spoken about on tours, evoked defensively by Residential Life staff, featured prominently in the strategic plan and everywhere else. Except in our lives.

In theory, the Commons system is a nice idea: communities within the greater College community, each with its own character and aesthetic, with separate staff members, housing, dining, and social lives. In reality, Middlebury students are not so insular.

While the Commons do some good in terms of providing a support network for students, particularly freshmen, they are so unimportant in the average student's life as to be invisible or worse, nothing but a source for nagging e-mails and invitations to movie nights. For all the grand talk, we live in a community integrated and small enough that artificial bifurcations are hardly what's needed.

Students do a fine job of creating communities of friends.

It is a fact of life at college for most people that one's friends will increasingly be those within one's major, team, or extracurricular activity, and not the people who happened to live in the same building freshman year. This is particularly true given the increasingly bookish and involved culture of the College, when people are spending more time either alone or participating in their activities, and less time in their dorms.

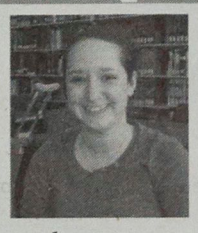
Students do a fine job creating their own communities of friends. I say, let them live together: the only time when the Commons are not invisible is room draw, which is a fiasco every year, and every year there is a new well-intentioned promise for reform. Suddenly, one's Commons becomes either a burden or a boon; as much as some students love Stewart, Hepburn, and Proctor, the annual exodus from Brainerd is no coincidence (136 freshmen cram into Stewart, yet the 100 beds of "senior" housing include sophomores, juniors, and some empty rooms). Until the housing is completed, using the complex system which we have in place now only creates headaches and heartache.

That said, I am not against the Commons per se, and I certainly would not support dismantling the entire system. But the silent consensus about the Commons is at best ambivalent and removed. For an aspect of Middlebury which is supposed to be so central, this is a bad sign.

So, here is a reality check. There are parts of the system which work fine — I am thinking of how it nicely organizes the SGA and provides support for freshmen — but much of the infrastructure built up around the Commons is either superfluous or inefficient. Either the system needs to be streamlined to accept these realities, or the manner of its implementation needs to be drastically reconsidered. We have chosen this path. Now we need to make it work.

Perhaps the steering committee could consider investigating how students actually use the Commons, instead of planning the future of the College around how we are supposed to be using the Commons. Shaping our culture and direction is not as easy as dividing the campus into five unequal parts. And all of Old Chapel's wishful thinking will not help.

the web poll: Do you think Middlebury is an apathetic campus?



"I think students are apathetic because they are too preoccupied with their work."

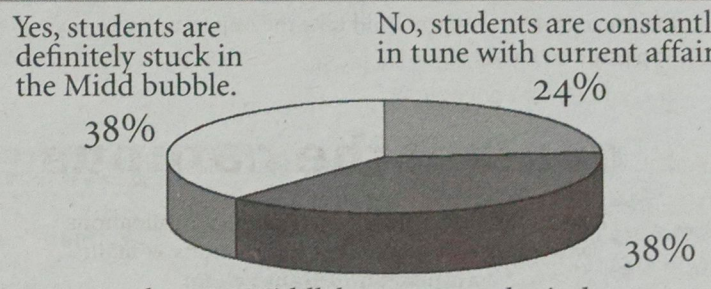
— MARISA PORTER '09

"Why are you asking me? I don't even put sheets on my bed."

— JESSE DAVIDSON '08

"If you're so absorbed in academics, is it really possible to be completely involved in world events?"

— ELIANNA KAN '10.5



Students at Middlebury are apathetic, but not nearly as much as kids at other colleges.

Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

Next week's web poll: **Should Delta House be allowed back on campus?**

I am prepared

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check it, homeslice.

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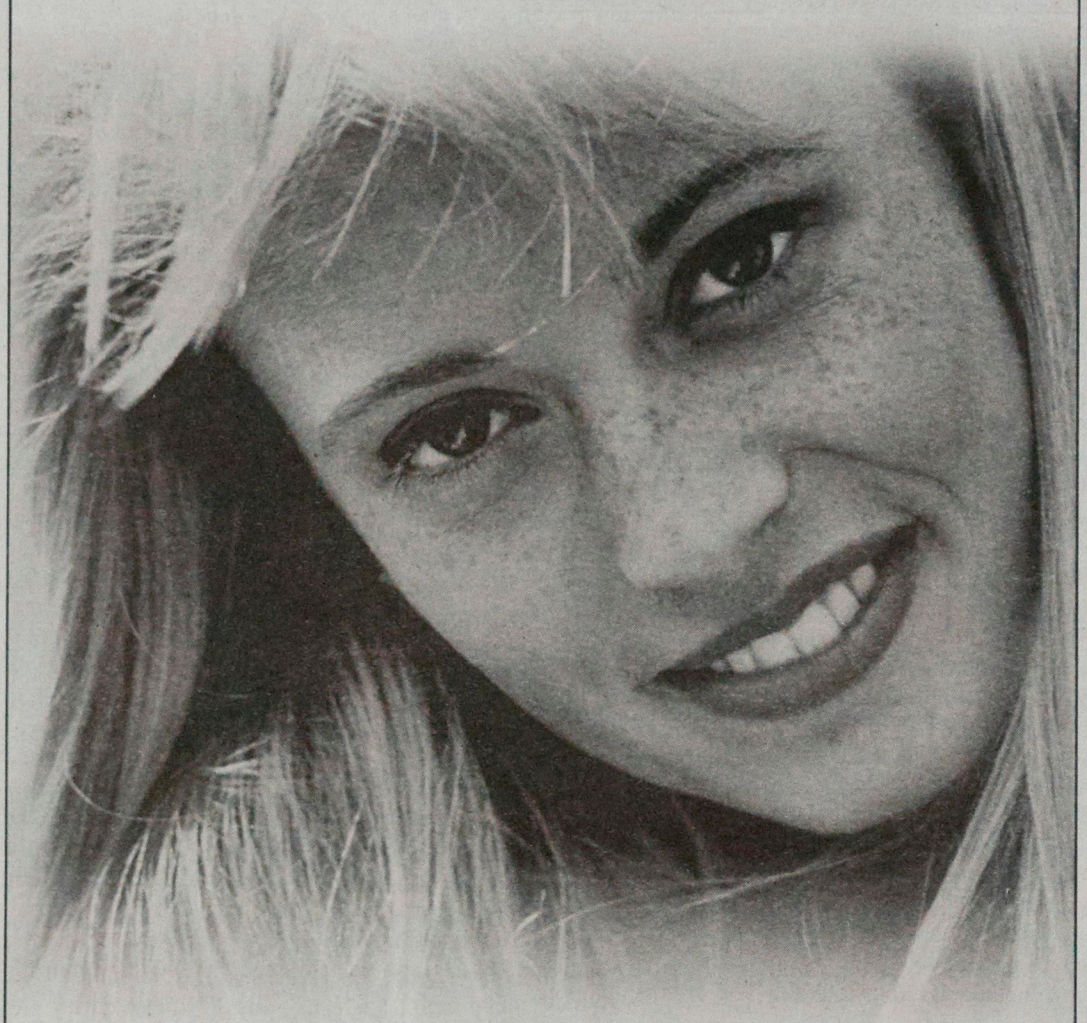

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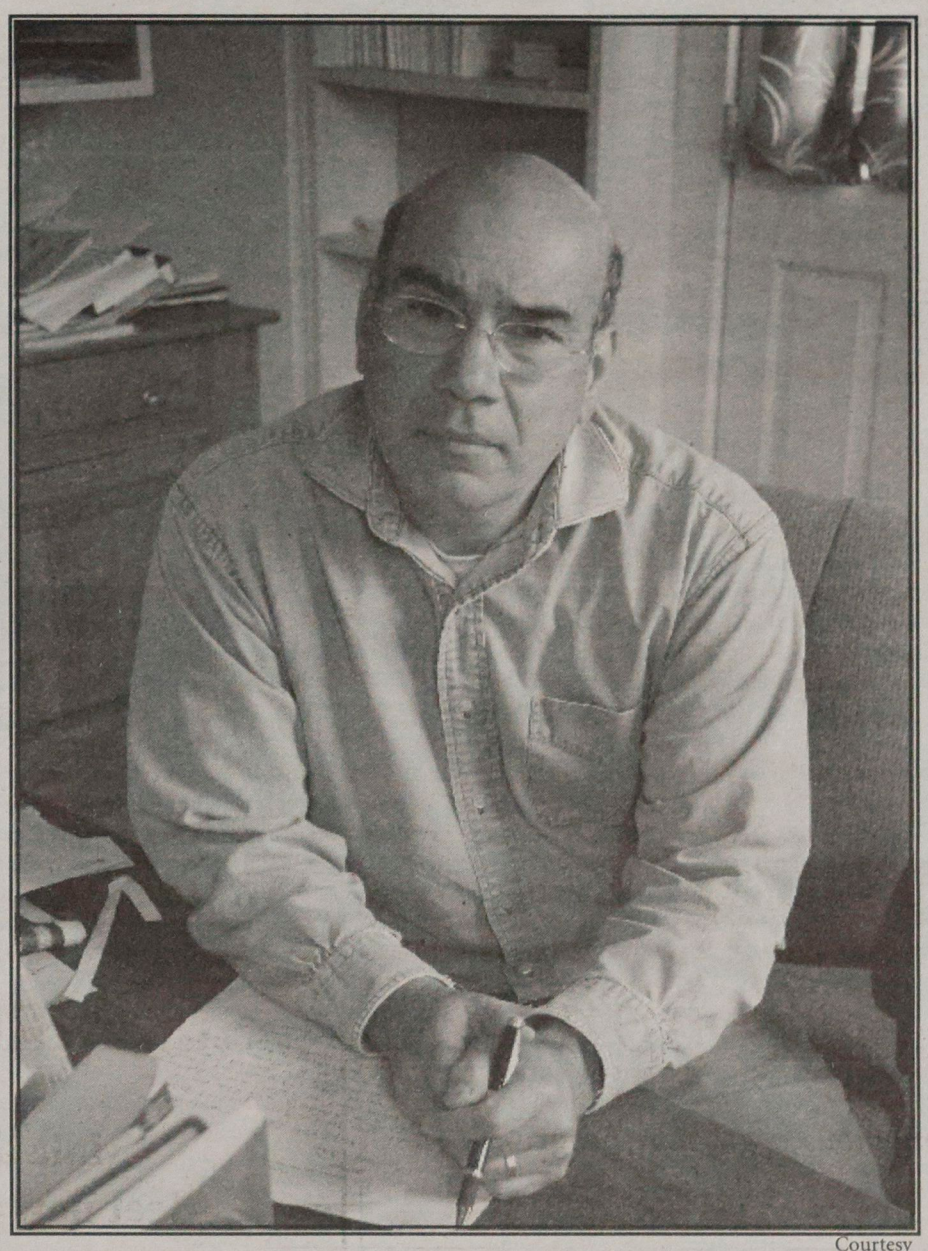


Courtesy

Parini sends Tolstoy to Tinseltown

BY KATIE WASHBURN

On a drizzly morning in downtown Middlebury, several customers lounged at Carol's Hungry Mind Café. Shortly after 8 a.m., a familiar customer, Axinn Professor of English & Creative Writing Jay Parini, enters, proceeds to order a coffee and drifts toward the back of the room.

"For the past 40 years I've come to a café everyday to write," explains Parini. "I only like to write for a couple of hours in the morning, and I often start very early."

This daily ritual has produced poetry collections, novels, biographies, literary critiques and now the inspiration for a Hollywood film starring Meryl Streep and Anthony Hopkins. "The Last Station," Parini's novel based on the last year in the life of Russian author Leo Tolstoy, is currently being made into a movie by director Michael Hoffman.

The evolution of "The Last Station" has been a lengthy process for Parini, who began working with renowned actor Anthony Quinn to adapt the novel into a screenplay after it was published in 1990. Quinn had planned on playing the lead role of Tolstoy until he passed away from complications of throat cancer in 2001.

Parini then went back to work with Bonnie Arnold, associate producer of "Dances with Wolves," to set the film in motion. When director Michael Hoffman picked up the project, he completely rewrote the screenplay, basing his work on the original novel. After sending out the script, movie stars Anthony Hopkins and Meryl Streep signed on as leading actors.

"I am delighted to have such major figures of today in the film," says Parini. "I'm especially interested in the lesser known figures, like Paul Giamatti."

Giamatti will be playing the emotionally rich character of Vladimir Cherkov, Tolstoy's apprentice. Parini also anticipates James McAvoy's performance with excitement. McAvoy recently starred in "The Last King of Scotland."

"The Last Station," will begin shooting in Russia later this year, but is only one of many different projects in which Parini is involved. He is a multi-faceted writer, not strictly adhering to or favoring a certain type of work.

"I think of poetry at my center, [but] I would not give up anything," he says. "It works better to shift among genres, [as] one genre informs another."

In 2005, Parini's "The Art of Subtraction: New and Selected Poems" was published. "The Art of Teaching" was also released two years ago and, as Parini says, "was surprisingly successful." The work used anecdotes from his experience as a professor to tackle many classroom issues.

This past fall, Parini finished a book called "Why Poetry Matters," which he describes as a "history of how poets themselves justify their work." In it, he emphasizes the importance of correctly using metaphor.

"Like Frost said, if you're not educated in metaphor, you're not safe to be let loose in the world," says Parini. He used President Bush as an example. "The misuse of metaphor leads us into dangerous places, such as Iraq."

A recent event at the Center for the Arts featured a reading of one of Parini's newest works, "Mary Postgate," based on a short story by Rudyard Kipling, which Parini describes as a "story [he'd] been brooding on for the past twenty to thirty years." Parini is currently writing "Promised Land: Thirteen Books That Made America."

Yet Parini notes that his true love is teaching. He sees the profession as "an active conversation" between him and his students.

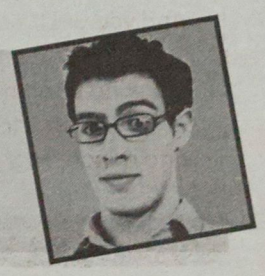
"I love to meet with students and talk to them, and guide their reading," he says.

Though he has been teaching for the past 35 years, he still insists, "It seems to me I just started yesterday."

sex sage
Letting loose: musings on spring break sex
page 12

The sound of silence
Find a new study spot for midterm exams,
page 13

newton's laws
A little FYI before you race to buy that porsche
page 13



sexsage

by Sage Bierster

Spring Break is coming and that can mean only one thing — spring break sex. Glorious, commitment-free, wild, spring break sex. Of course there are those who will go home and sit on the couch downing mom's cooking and won't see the light of day for a week, but for much of America's college population, Spring Break means Panama City, Galveston, Miami — you name it and if it has a beach and a wet t-shirt contest you'll find Spring Break.

What is the attraction of spring break sex? Why does the combination of alcohol, sunshine and thousands of people we have never seen before send our hormones into overdrive? There are parties every weekend on campus where alcohol is readily available and occasionally we see the sun, so why are we getting all worked up over a bunch of scantily dressed strangers? I suppose there is something to that, because as we all know at Middlebury it can feel as if you know everyone. This can make it difficult to let loose and sow your wild oats when you see the same people all the time. Couple this with the well-known fact that we are all stressed out by the time the break rolls around and that sex on campus ranges from rare to non-existent for most students, and what you get is a bunch of horny, pent-up twenty-somethings who are itching for an excuse to get naked.

So we drop a couple of hundred dollars on flights and hotels in some sandy or other warm-weather locale hoping to cash in on what MTV has turned spring break into: an orgiastic free-for-all of liquor, sunburns and sex. But what if the local population has a different plan. Yes, there are several beach communities that are adamant about stopping our mojo.

This past October for example, Daytona Beach banned "tini bikinis" and levied a $500 fine for all violators. This is sacrilege! A spring break fling should be a way to broaden your sexual horizons, to explore a side of yourself that you don't feel comfortable showing when you are here, and it should be fun!

Of course, Mexico can be a great alternative to our increasingly puritanical U.S. of A., luring around 170,000 Americans every year with cheaper trips and alcohol laden parties. The attitude in Mexico is also generally hospitable to American tourists — nobody's banning bikini's in Cancun.

While Cancun can be exciting, don't forget how important it is to always protect yourself while in a party atmosphere. Sexual assualt can happen to anyone, anywhere, especially in an environment where the booze is flowing, there is little feeling of responsibility and no one really knows each other. The same factors that make spring break so much fun can also turn it into a nightmare if you aren't careful.

So enjoy yourselves next week, wherever you go, and revel in the fact that whatever happens during spring break stays there. However, please remember to go easy on the drinks when you are looking to find some company for the night, and if you go with a group of friends look out for each other. That way you can have your spring break and get off too.

Climb to new heights at the wall

By H. Kay Merriman
Staff Writer

"Suspended reefers in Chacos" is how Brittany Burnett '09 describes the types of people who frequent the climbing wall.

"Definitely crunchy granola types with rolled pant legs, but undeniably sexy," says Dave Birr '09.

Alex Fisher '10 agrees that the climbing wall is a magnet for eye candy. "Climbers are attractive, muscular guys with no shirts who listen to eclectic music," she says.

Certain stereotypes surround the students who spend hours at the climbing wall, located at the south end of the Nelson Recreation Center. Although they may not wish to dispel the conception that they are good-looking, they would like to correct the granola-eating stereotype, patch their rocky relationship with the tennis team and encourage timid newcomers to visit the wall.

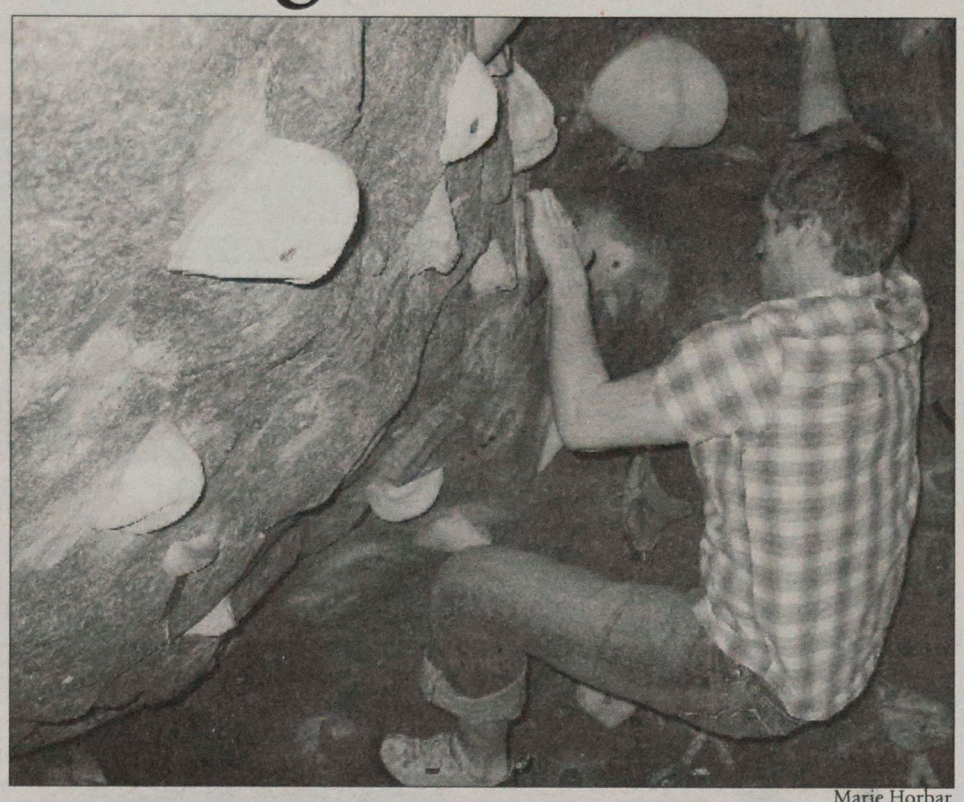
"People think it's a hippie sport, but it's not. It's for people who enjoy the outdoors," says avid climber and climbing wall monitor Claire Ojima '07. She admits that the wall can be intimidating to people who have never tried it before.

"I never would have come alone the first time," admits Hillary Coleman '10, who now uses the wall as a "stress reliever." More than a stress-relieving activity, the wall offers a supportive, community environment.

"The thing about climbing is it's so friendly," says Ojima. The climbers at the wall pride themselves on being accepting and welcoming.

"We don't necessarily always hang out outside of here, but we all see each other here and have fun together," says climber and wall monitor Justin Ouyang '09. Ouyang uses the wall as a way to train for outdoor climbs and also as a way to meet other climbers and plan outdoor climbing trips.

As if Middlebury students do not test their limits in enough ways, less-experienced climbers use the wall as a means of overcoming fear and pushing themselves to try new things.



Marie Horbar

Seaching for the next foothold, a student scales the Middlebury Climbing wall.

Coleman took the climbing wall class as her physical education credit over J-Term and said that a surprising number of people in her class were admittedly afraid of heights. She describes the moment of pause climbing gives her: "I think, wow, I'm up really high, but I just keep climbing," she says.

As for the "reefer" reputation, the climbers seem to be more addicted to the sport itself.

"You get addicted to figuring out a route. It's like a puzzle. You just focus on the fact that you're climbing and the hours go by really fast," says Coleman. However, both Coleman and Ojima described the sport as "chill," so that facet of the climbing wall stereotype is still open for interpretation.

Another "chill" aspect of the climbing wall is the music the monitors play while climbing.

"All the other sports teams seem to like our music," says Ojima, except for the tennis team, who, according to Ojima, demands that the climbers not play music while the team is practicing below.

So, what is the climbing wall culture really like? The only way to really find out, according to the monitors and climbers, is to go and experience it for one's self.

"Half of climbing is hanging out and chatting because you can't climb the whole time," says Ojima.

The next time the gym is crowded, take a walk over to the climbing wall. They will be happy to show you the ropes.

15 seconds with...
Mary Chiles '09

Chocolate or Vanilla? I love chocolate but I prefer vanilla for ice cream

Favorite Appetizer? Seaweed Salad

Childhood Ambition? to be a dolphin trainer

Inspiration? Monica Caroline Sull '09.

Soundtrack? Nina Simone, Bob Dylan, Paul Simon, Gillian Welch and Ottis Redding.

Greatest Fear? Rats.

Britney or Christina? Christina.

Favorite holiday? Halloween. I love to dress up.

Favorite work of art? Klimt, "Stages of Women"

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

St. Patty's Day	St. Patty's Day at Middlebury
The one day a year when it's okay to drink the entire day.	Laser Tag? Is that all we could come up with?
Pax Thien Jolie-Pitt	Maddox Jolie-Pitt
We're not in Vietnam anymore...	We can already hear the "E! True Hollywood Story" theme music playing.
NCAA Basketball Tournament	Your Bracket
With games all weekend long, does any professor actually expect work to be turned in?	Abandon all hope, you ain't winning the pool. Go do your homework.

Belligerence brings bills for binging

By Sara Black
Staff Writer

You just finished your economics midterm. Being 20 years old, you solicit the services of your friend in the senior class to go to the liquor store with a truly collegiate shopping list.

One handle of Popov Vodka: $12.99. One 30-rack of Bud Light: $17.00. One bottle of Andre: $4.00. One liter of Bacardi apple rum on sale: $15.93.

The total bill is $53.92 — not bad for a Friday night of drunken debauchery.

But that misleading figure hardly covers the exorbitant cost that binge drinking may incur, as a growing number of Middlebury students are discovering. In fact, on the Saturday morning after your victorious midterm, you may wake up to find yourself footing a much larger bill after drinking beyond your limit during the previous night's festivities. What began as a social evening quickly deteriorated into a belligerent whirlwind of events — sending you from the thrills of the party scene to the Health Center, Porter Hospital and finally the police department in Rutland.

"There's a bump in the number of patients we see every year," Assistant Director at Parton Health Center Terry Jenny said, "when classes end before exams, 21st birthdays, St. Patrick's Day, etc."

On certain uproarious holidays and on many nights during J-term, the sound of beer cans cracking open and the clink of shot glasses hitting the table can be heard as one walks down any dormitory hallway. But when these lighthearted gatherings take a turn for the worse, and friends or Public Safety officers must take intoxicated students to Parton Health Center or Porter Hospital, the bills start adding up fast.

While some hospitalized students will be quickly discharged, others will remain overnight for observation or be sent to Porter Hospital. Others, in the cold confines of a Middlebury Police Department (MPD) car, will make their way to the Rutland Detoxification Center, "if they are behaving in such a manner that they are unable to stay at the Health Center," says Assistant Director of Patrol Operations Dan Gaiotti.

If, added Gaiotti, "they're belligerent, they're combative or they're not willing to stay at the Health Center, then Parton staff will determine whether or not they can handle them."

"If not, they're going to call Public Safety to try and calm the student down," he said. "Then if that's not happening, the Health Center will say, 'we can't have them here.' In that case, we contact the MPD."

If you choose to fight off attendants at the Health Center and struggle against Public Safety's advances, you can find yourself in such a predicament.

Waking up in Rutland Detoxification Center, the price of your night increased to much more than just a hangover: the reasonable sum of $53.92 becomes a staggering $903.92.

"Usually the college only sends students to protective custody (which can be Rutland or Burlington) when they won't cooperate," said Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson. "It is important that they cooperate with the police and if they don't then that makes the infraction more serious."

As a student passes from the hands of the two nurses at the Health Center to the emergency room personnel, to the MPD officer and finally to the officials at the Rutland Detoxification Center — while they may not remember any of these events — they will be incurring bills to pay at every step of the way.

For the standard services at Porter Hospital, required to treat an intoxicated student, the fee is $300.00. One would pay $150.00 for the civil ticket, and, in order to fulfill the ticket requirements, an additional $150.00 for substance abuse counseling at the facility of their choice. Another $200.00 dollars would go toward a future drug test. Finally, the student will be required to complete 10 community service hours. Students of age are released once the alcohol has left their body.

"Often students don't have money with them, cell phones or ways of calling friends back on campus," Hanson said. "Often the police just release them and they are stuck out of town. I know of instances in which friends have picked them up, but I also know of times when students have hitchhiked back or in one instance the student walked back to Middlebury."

And even after all of the money has been paid, students must appear in front of the College Judicial Board and withstand the ruling of the administration. In some cases, the student could face suspension.

"Each Community Judicial Board case is unique," Community Judicial Board member Sam Temes '07 said, and "unique attributes of every incident determine the sanction. Suspension is certainly a possible outcome. There is no 'golden rule'."

Money is not the only thing a student has to lose. He or she will likely endure a permanent mark on his or her school record.

"From my point of view it's scary to see people drink to the extent that they need to go to the hospital," Emergency Medical Technician and Junior Counselor Annie Davison '08.5 said, "Why drink if you are going to need an IV?"

"If you put it in a different setting it would be alcoholism," says Davison, adding, "Hopefully the habits won't carry over into the real world."

Dining hall staffs devour diner comments

By Miranda Tsang
Staff Writer

Each dining hall has its fanatics. Atwater Commons students seem to love Atwater's dining hall so much that they never leave the grass-roofed building. Their dining hall boasts a piano, a comfortable sitting area, delicious garlic bread, pizza and fresh pasta. Ross residents come to eat in flip-flops regardless of the weather and wait in long lines for the latest and greatest from the famous Mongolian wok. Proctor fans praise the dining hall's panini machine and the fully stocked salad bar, some advertising their Proctor passions with t-shirts that read, "The Strength of the Terrace is His Also."

Who and what are responsible for the variety and difference between dining halls?

"When there was only Proctor and Freeman International Center (FIC), the dining halls used to share the same menus," says General Manager of Commons Dining Bradley Koehler. The chefs spend between 10 and 15 hours per week conceiving and posting their menus.

A lesser known fact is the extent to which menus are shaped by student feedback and suggestions. Thanks to the comment card system at each of the dining halls and the Grille, students are able to voice their opinions on not just what the dining halls serve, but their thoughts and opinions about how they serve it.

And commenting just got even easier, as comment cards are receiving a technological makeover.

"We've recently put comment cards online, since so much of what students do is on the computer," says Koehler as he pulls up the Dining Services Web page to demonstrate.

Nobody remembers exactly when the comment card system first began — no one asked seemed to remember when the system began, nor could they recall a Middlebury without this avenue of discourse between students and staff.

In any case, the possibly-ancient system is still functioning today, and students continue to take advantage of it on a regular basis.

"I once requested more Roman sandwiches in Proctor," says Michael McCormick '09. "They said they'd eventually have them again, and then, well, they did."

Kelsey Nelson '09 confesses that she has never filled out a comment card, but says that her friends did all the time.

"The realistic ones get acted on pretty quickly," she says.

In fact, the managers and chefs who answer the cards do so daily on weekdays, and those posted on weekends are answered on Monday.

"I'd say 80 to 90 percent of the comments we receive are positive," reflects Koehler. Sometimes students even ask for recipes.

"Usually graduating seniors," adds Brent Simons, dining manager of Ross Commons.

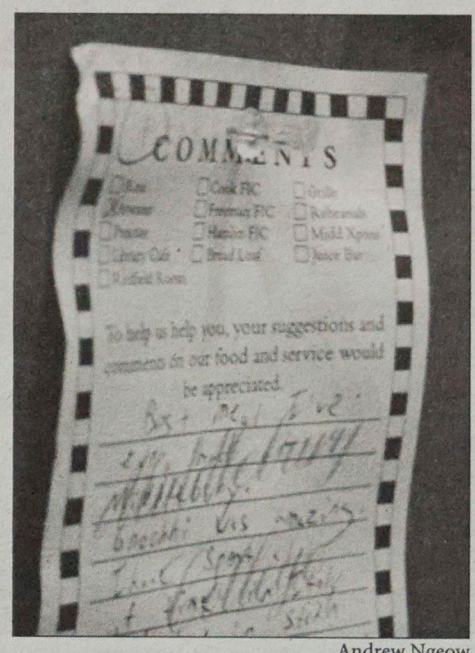
But, don't the comments ever get annoying? Wouldn't the chefs rather make their menus and not have to deal with students' opinions? Koehler and Simons said no way.

"The only way that we can improve is with the feedback from the students. For example, there was a comment on thick corn chowder at Proctor," says Koehler.

The two men stressed the importance of constructive criticism. "We want to figure it out. Why was the chowder too thick? Who was making it that day? Was it the starch?" says Koehler.

Often, students make requests that the Dining Services staff simply can't provide. "We're honest," says Koehler. One student had written earlier that day asking where the fruit was now that the freeze in California was over.

Ross Commons Chef Christopher LaFramboise responded that even though the freeze was over, prices were still high. Simons noted that there just isn't as much fruit to be had either, as a result of the freeze.



Andrew Ngeow

Returned to its sender, a comment card gets a reply. The Dining Services staff answers these cards weekly.

Kenneth Lazo '09 remembers that he once asked for a certain flavor of Ben and Jerry's ice cream, and was told that that flavor did not come in large quantities.

According to Koehler, the approximately 10 percent of comment cards which are not positive are not necessarily negative. "When Ross first opened, we received a comment card specifically for me that said, 'You rock! I want to have your babies!'" says Koehler, laughing. A few weeks ago, Ross received a card saying, 'The guy on the Mongolian grill is hot!' which, Koehler and Simons speculated, refers to a high school staff member.

While Koehler, Simons and the rest of the dining staff can't bring a panini machine to Atwater or a Mongolian grill to Proctor, comment cards allow students to make their dining hall their own in more subtle ways.

newton's laws

by Thomas Newton

What do George Orwell, Porsche and insurance companies have in common? Porsche and insurance companies are doing what George Orwell predicted almost 60 years ago: they're watching us. Privacy has become a serious concern for many Americans with the advent of new technologies and applications of technologies, as identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the world.

It is becoming increasingly common for large institutions to watch what their customers are doing. Yet, Porsche seems an unlikely company to be using technology to monitor its customers.

But in the central electronic control unit of all Porsches, there is a small black box that records the main activities of the car. This information becomes very useful to Porsche if, for example, you take your $120,000 high-performance Porsche 911 Turbo out for a day at the track and in turn ruin your clutch. When you take it into a Porsche dealership for repairs, they will connect your car to a computer, download the information from the black box, see that you were redlining your car for 30 minutes and then proceed to tell you that you voided your warranty.

There is no reason that Porsche should replace a clutch that you broke at a track event — you used it contrary to the conditions of the warranty — but should Porsche be able to monitor what you do with the car?

Taken a step further, what happens when your car's information becomes more public and the police are able to pull you over, check your car's computer and give you a ticket for speeding two weeks ago? It would most likely cut down traffic violations and automotive accidents, but would the benefits be worth the loss of freedom?

A similar issue arises with a trial program called DriveCam, initiated by American Family Mutual Insurance Company. The program includes a small video camera that is installed in a teenager's car that is constantly on, but only records when there is heavy acceleration or braking. In a test conducted with 25 teenagers who drove over 300,000 miles in 10 months, there was a 72 percent drop in video recording from start to finish, implying safer drivers. This is all well and good, except for the fact that the videos may eventually be used to set drivers insurance rates and could also be used as evidence in court cases.

This use of technology brings up the same questions as the black boxes in Porsches. Both are good in theory, as Porsche's box prevents fraudulent warranty claims and could cut down on speeding and accidents, and DriveCam could lead to a culture of safer teenage driving. But how much monitoring is too much? Where can the line be drawn?

Orwell, in "1984," predicted a future in which a totalitarian state watched everyone and everything. As far-fetched as that vision seems, the current proliferation of monitoring technologies would imply that this is the direction in which we are headed.

But as long as we keep our senses and aren't seduced by the prospect of improved safety and security that these technologies may offer, we can have a get by without Big Brother.

Bring on the midterms! Our top five study spots

Whether you have been a Middlebury student for a few weeks or a few years, you have most likely found your own study spot. It may be your bedroom, a friend's bedroom, the Grille or the Library. Maybe this has been working for a while, but admit it — sometimes your space gets crowded. Friends may constantly drop in, or other students may disrespect the fact that you sit in the third carrel from the back of the library everyday. Whatever the reason, you need to find a new spot, and quickly. As we enter the high season of midterms and papers, you need a quiet study getaway where no one will find you and where you will work best. Light a candle and de-stress as *The Campus* shows you your next study knoll.

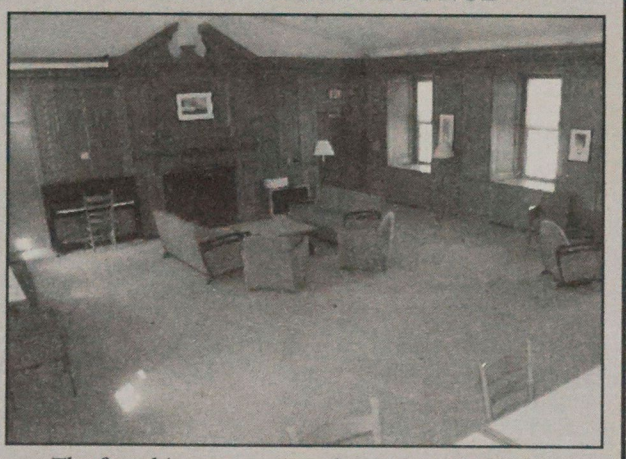
Library Café

In many ways, the Library Café is a hidden gem of a study spot. The Café offers Odwalla juice, Coffee, Espresso, finger foods, salads and sandwiches from 7:30 a.m. -10:00 p.m. At ten, you can stock up and stay because unlike the New Library, the Library Café is one of the only 24 hour spaces at The College. To use one word, Dining Services staff member Mary-Ann Gardner describes the café as "convenient." And how can it not be, as an appendix to the New Library — a.k.a. "the tree of knowledge" a.k.a. "the spaceship" — most of the resources on campus are just steps away. One word of caution: the noise in this locale is definitely a problem. No one has to keep quiet here, so they often don't. That said, the Library Café is a hot spot for those who need a bit of background noise to think.

Hepburn Study Rooms

A classic, and perhaps the best place to actually get your work done. "Oh please, don't tell anyone about this place," says Brittany Burnett '09. With beautiful all wood cubicles and plenty of electrical and internet outlets, the Hepburn study room is one of the College's most luxurious study spots and it's also dead quiet — the radiator being the only audible noise. What's more, the Hepburn study room also does not discriminate against those students who hate carrels and love couches. Four loveseats with lots of floor space flank both sides of this neat study space. Finally, if the snow ever stops, you can even escape to the patio connected to the lounge to have a smoke, drink some tea or meditate. The Hepburn lounge may be the classiest, sassiest and best study spot on campus. Yet out of respect for Burnett, we won't give directions.

Gifford Annex Lounge



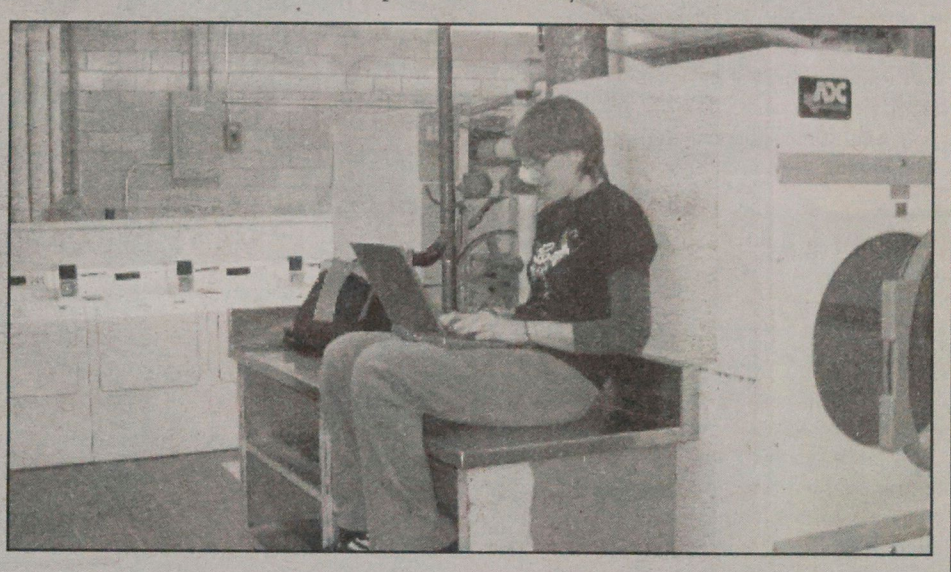
The first thing you notice when you open the doors to the Gifford Annex Lounge (Gannex in Wonnacott-speak), is the strange smell. Yet, once your nostrils become accustomed to the scent, you will find the room that you came to a small college for. Floor to ceiling wood paneling surrounds you as you have your pick of a number of couches or two nice tables on which to spread your study materials. Procrastination here is also difficult, as internet reception is spotty and, unlike other lounges around campus, the Gannex is *sans* television. Pianists might want to stay away, as the Gannex features a nice upright piano for your procrastination pleasure. While there were no students present during *The Campus* investigation, the Gannex is a popular meeting spot for campus groups. It is best to stay away from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on all weekdays.

The Music Library

The Music Library lies deep in the recesses of the Center for the Arts (CFA) on the southwest side of campus. For any seniors who are the last to remember the feel of the old Starr Library, the Music Library may arouse some nostalgia. Like old Starr, the Music library has loads of metal furniture, a confusing layout and dead silence.

"This place is deserted at night," says Adam Levine '09, who enjoys a particular quirk about the Music Library. "For me, the best thing is the listening rooms. You can rent out a space and do your work, lock the door and listen to music," he says.

While the Music Library is one of the best places to hole one's self away, the Library's expansive collection of CDs is one noted procrastination tool. Watch out, because every desk also comes equipped with a CD and record player. The distance from campus and intense procrastination possibilities make the Music Library the study spot for the hardcore student in need to do some serious work.



Forest Laundry Room

Sometimes you find the study room, and sometimes — the study room finds you. You may be in a hairy situation in which you have no underwear and a novel to read by the morning. Enter the Forest Laundry Room. Warm, efficient and featuring the soothing sounds of industrial washers and dryers, the Forest Laundry room may be your final salvation. "Beyond the rhythm of the washers, it smells nice," says Nancy Fullman '07, who was busy folding her clothes. There are some logistical drawbacks, as the laundry room is a laundry room and is equipped as such. This means no internet hookups, no desks and only three chairs. It is also advisable not to stay too still while reading — you may turn off the motion-activated lights.

— Joseph Bergan, Features Editor
Photos by Alicia Taylor

Saving the world with laundry, one sweater at a time

By Annabelle Fowler
Staff Writer

The weekend is a perfect time to do laundry. On Saturdays at around noon, the laundry room in Forest fills with piles upon piles of freshly washed clothes, students loading and unloading washing machines and a slew of others waiting — sometimes impatiently — for dryers. Although we all gripe about doing laundry, inevitably we all spend some time in the laundry rooms at least once or twice every couple of weeks.

And that simple fact of college life is what led Mithra Harivandi '09 to launch a New-Used Clothes Drive and making the laundry room a clothes collection headquaters for people in need in Addison County. "When I went back home over winter break," said Harivandi, "I opened my closet and saw lots of clothes I don't wear very often. I thought that many Middlebury students were probably in the same situation and have clothes that are in good condition that they would like to donate."

Harivandi's project will start off in Forest, as the laundry room is used by students who live in all the adjacent residence halls. Her plan is to put bins in the laundry room before Spring Break. Students will be able to make a contribution to her drive by placing their gently used clothes in the bins. She plans to expand to more laundry rooms and other Commons in time.

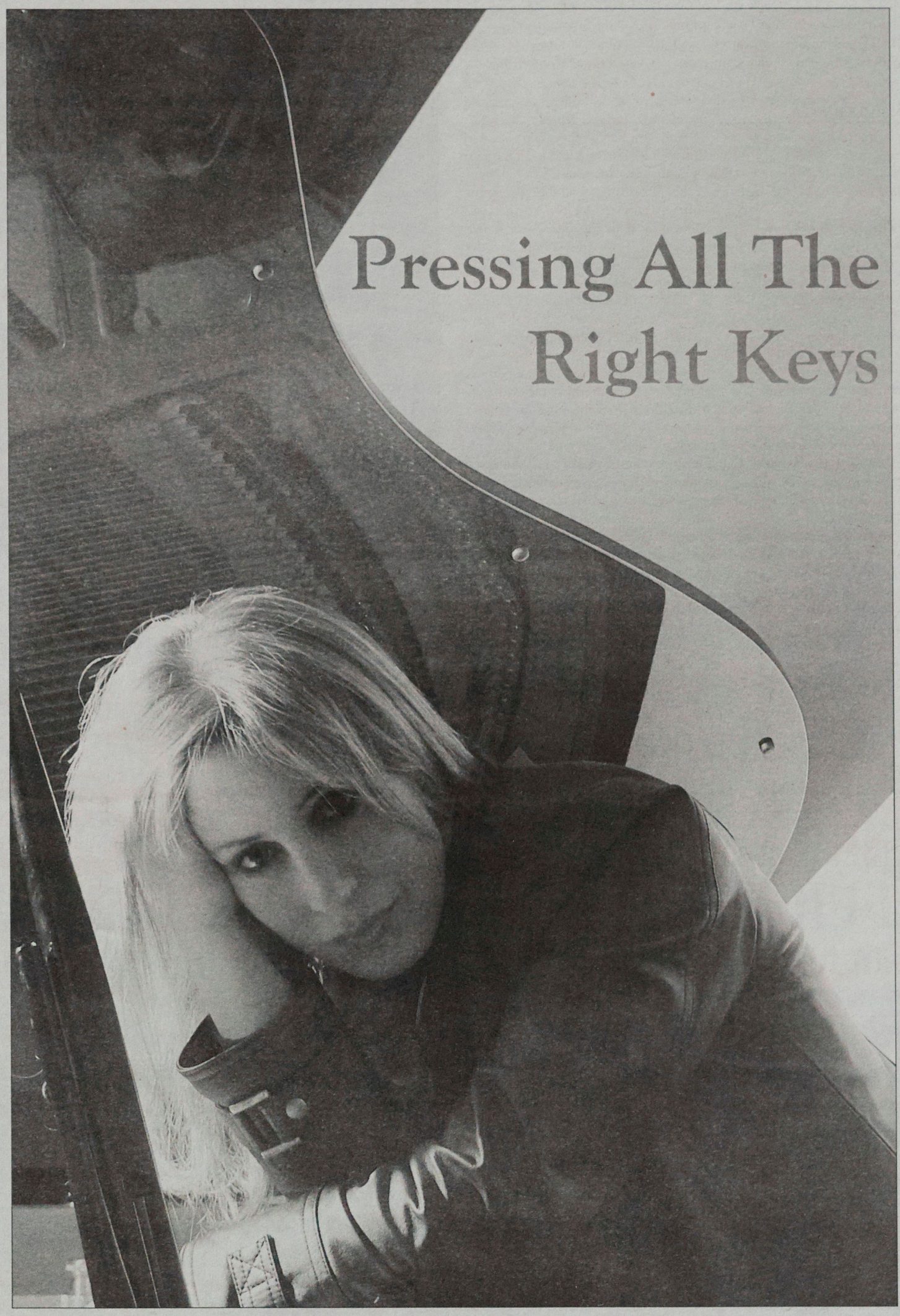
Harivandi will be working together with the Addison County Community Action Group (ACCAG), an organization that seeks to eliminate poverty in the county. Every few months, the clothes donated to Harivandi's Clothes Drive will be taken to the ACCAG Community Services Center in town. The ACCAG will then distribute the clothes accordingly, to those who need them the most. The better shape the clothes are in, the better for the drive, stresses Harivandi.

By placing clothing bins in various laundry rooms around campus, Harivandi aims to make the drive as accessible as possible to students. She is sure that many people have something they would like to donate, but do not have time to walk all the way to the ACCAG offices to do so. Focusing the drive in a frequently visited space will encourage donations and participation on the part of students, she reasons. If students see bins when they are loading washing machines and dryers, they will be encouraged to contribute.

Joen Moen '10 thinks Harivandi's drive is a good idea. "I definitely have a few T-Shirts that I brought to school that I never wear and would be willing to donate," he said.

Nathalie Michiels '10 agrees. "Students are so busy here," she said. "We all have things we would like to donate, but don't necessarily have the time to walk into town to do so. This drive would make it easier for students to be charitable and involved in community service."

So, while you're home over the break, take some time to sift through the depths of your bottom drawer, and for once heed your mother's pestering regarding spring-cleaning. That way, next time you're doing laundry, you can hit up the bins in between cycles.



Pressing All The Right Keys

Interpreting pieces by Beethoven, Schubert and Chopin, Ingrid Filter attempted to enrapture listeners in the hope of transporting them to a higher-level of musical appreciation. Page 15.

editors' picks

03 **Exhibit of Color Photography**
Johnson Pit Space
8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Students in John Huddleston's Color Photography Course, ART 0328, exhibit their work in both traditional film-based analog images and digital images produced in the new darkroom facility in Johnson Memorial Building.

05 **Art Opening**
Gamut Room
9 p.m.

Art opening featuring artist of the month, Ian Tucker Peach '07.5, as well as live music by three different student bands.

The FHGT
Wright Theater
8 p.m. **05**

The Five Hysterical Girls Theorem, Rinne Groff's comeuppance for the fifth-grade teacher who threatened to flunk her in math. Production directed by Cheryl Faraone; additional performances Friday and Saturday evening at 8 p.m.

07 **Mysterious Skin:** Dana Auditorium
8 p.m.

Gregg Araki directed this breakthrough film with this coming-of-age tale that explores the hearts and minds of two teenagers who discover that the key to their future lies in confronting a troubling past.

Drawing the line between grafitti and art

Veracity Butcher's theatrical experience glitters creativity on the Zoo

By Colin Foss
Staff Writer

A healthy dose of egotism can do wonders. As simultaneous writer, director and actor, Veracity Butcher '09 brought her audience through a twisted ride into her own psyche in her most recent spectacle entitled "Glittering Graffiti." Not really a play in the traditional sense, Butcher instead billed the piece as a "theatrical experience," which was the first in an endless procession of avant-garde moves that inform the structure of the performance. Short life-art vignettes helped to explain how a whole character is made, how Butcher herself wants to be seen, how any of us compartmentalize and cope with our own bits of schizophrenia. "Glittering Graffiti" pushed self-conscious art to its limits, where the art becomes so introverted that we have to muddle our way through the folds of the creator's cerebrum to discover the essence of the piece.

The stage was sparse enough. Three full-length mirrors were suspended from the ceiling, behind which three dancers enacted a curiously inhuman flailing. A red banner filled with the scrawling of lines drawn from the performance forms a drawn-back curtain over the stage. As the audience entered, they saw the arms of the three dancers waving from the sides of the mirrors, as if the performance had already begun. When Butcher made her appearance on stage, it was uncertain if it was Butcher the actor, Butcher the character or Butcher the playwright who was addressing the audience. She shifted in and out of each persona, fracturing the lines that she had written for herself and escaping to somewhere less theatrical and more real. Why then did the dialogue feel so much like lyric poetry and not common parlance?

Part of it could be the desire to elevate vulgar emotion. She gave each of her characters a veracity their elevated speech nearly crippled. The full emotional impact of their testimonies could not stand that kind of pressure. The composition and unity of the piece glittered enough to let the speech stay metaphoric and not sacrifice any bit of efficacy. The characters within the play personified certain lines of thought and certain base emotions that could be disassociations of an individual, or could have represented certain generic characters in modern society. Vanity, the emergence and protection of individualism and even modern stereotypes of evil — embodied in a representative of the oil industry, of all things — come up as brief arguments for a case that was vaguely mentioned in the introduction. But the point behind "Glittering Graffiti" was not in what connects the vignettes thematically, but in their representation.

"So what if there's no theme?" Butcher wrote in her director's notes within the playbill. "Theatre is art!!! Therapy! Coarse. 3-D. Beautiful."

The notes themselves were actually "notes on the director's notes," which meant handwritten, first-draft brainstorming on what a polished bit of director's notes may look like. This presented itself as an attempt to end presentation and identified itself as a manifesto against manifestos. What were important were the images, Butcher wanted us to believe, but the need to contextualize those images was present in both the notes, the introduction and in the conclusion to the performance.

The dialogue, despite the embellished lyricism, was powerful. In one scene, two characters stood in front of the audience, each facing slightly away from the other. They were billed as the "Necessities," played by Josha Nathan '08 and Noah Kazam '07. Their monologues, delivered simultaneously, shot through the choppy bits of "Graffiti" giving the audience something notably tangible and convincing to hang on to. Each line jumped to a new character and a new desire — trivial or profound, a cup of coffee or peace from a violent war. It was an oral collage of desires and needs, engaging enough that the image needed no introduction or explanation. This scene found a universality that seemed to hit on what other, more internal portions of the performance lacked.

Chris Heinrich

Veracity Butcher '09 in the "office" of the Zoo.

The final monologue delivered by Butcher began with a complete blackout, which was disconcerting to an audience who, after watching the complete deconstruction of a number of identities, found itself alone, separated from the theatre-world by total darkness. When the lights came back on, Butcher stood triumphantly on stage. Her final monologue was a reassertion of the philosophy of the image for image's sake. She even undermines the ability of the audience to analyze the performance by doing it for them, assuming the academic air of a scholar and administering a thorough psychoanalysis to her character/self. Art can be self-conscious, and art can be self-centered but art should never be mired in the individual. Butcher allowed ample space for her theatric experience to move around within herself, but there were a few scenes where she let it escape her control and let the characters speak as independent entities, resembling more of a cross-section of society than the disassociate personae of a single person. The images became more powerful when you caught a glimpse of yourself in one of those suspended mirrors, suddenly realizing that you are enjoying a performance that is about you just as much as it is about the fractured actors on stage.

Ingrid Fliter tickles the old classical ivories

Argentinean Pianist performs Beethoven, Schubert and Chopin in CFA

Courtesy

Fliter's visit to Middlebury College brought quality classical talent to Vermont.

By Shahar Fineberg
Staff Writer

It was not until the very moment that the doors opened that Ingrid Fliter had the piano tuned and tempered. She instructed the tuner mainly to adjust the hammers for a fuller sound, rather than change the pitch of the notes. Initially, I regarded this as a standard procedure, one done by any pianist. But once the crowd was seated and the concert began, I realized at once that I had witnessed one of Fliter's many secrets: she must have tuned our Center for the Arts piano to a heavenly register, as the music wafted out from it, spreading throughout the Concert Hall and raising it to a perch just beneath the clouds.

From the time Schubert's movement began to when it ended, "D. 959 in A Major" the Sunday afternoon sun had been refracted through the music, it diffused and transformed the hanging triangular light fixtures wrapped in Styrofoam into clouds.

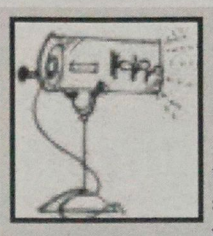
The Schubert sonata had come after an infrequently performed Beethoven piece, "Thirty-two Variations on an Original Theme in C minor," which was essentially a temperamental experiment whose rumbles excited the audience. Audience members were leaning over in their seats after the piece was played and promptly fell into the rapture of luxury, calm and voluptuousness in Schubert's sonata.

As I stepped out to intermission, I wondered how the second half of the concert, consisting entirely of Chopin pieces, could measure up to the first half. Schubert's rich, meandering strolls on the lakeside would surely be cut too short by Chopin's linear, Salonic elegance. In retrospect, though, my fear was unfounded, as the program had been cleverly assembled: the Beethoven piece was in fact as different from Schubert's as Schubert's was from the ensuing Chopin. The three composers were presented in chronological order, a fact I say the setting sun had noticed as well, as it brought forth the darkening day to shine a bit heavier through the windows, mirroring the progression into Chopin's chamber.

But it was not into Chopin's chamber that we were led. Filter managed to point out each composer's defining characteristics without necessarily evoking their stereotype, or what we have come to expect of them. In Chopin, for example, she emphasized the Prussian officer riding along the ridges of the Ural Mountains rather than chatting or dancing away at the Salon.

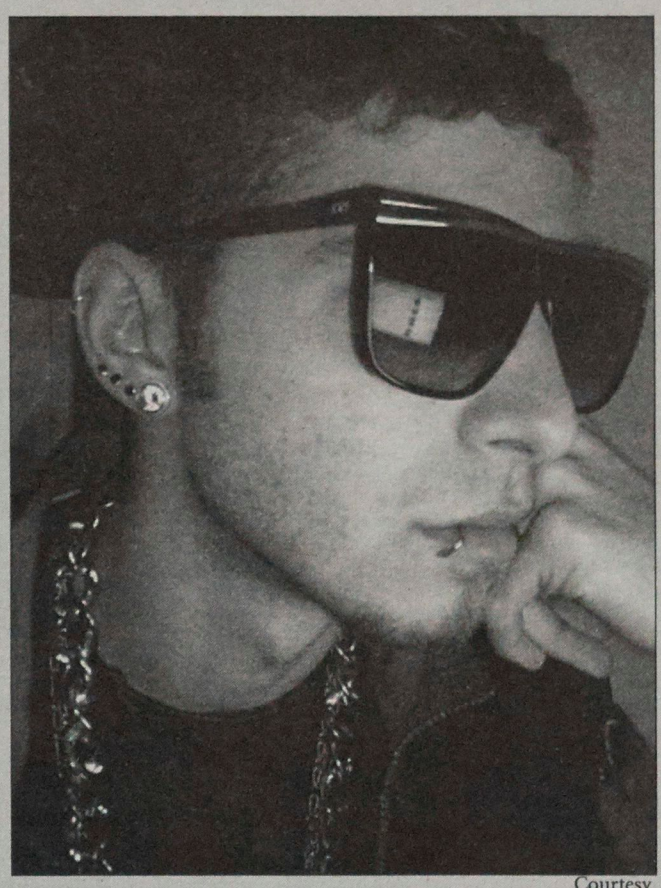
This concert was possibly the best one this year, and as Fliter completed the program with "Chopin's Ballad No. 4 in F Minor," the audience applauded and called to her until she eventually performed an encore of a modern piece, which is a gesture most who come to Middlebury do not make. In many concerts there are short pauses between a piece and the audience's applause, likely because the audience has lost track of the movements. In almost every concert, however, a standing ovation is given, somewhat indifferently to whether it had been deserved. This concert was one where no indifference was to be found, to which the performer, program, audience, hall and cosmos responded to produce a Sunday afternoon of ideal familiarity.

It is a shame this review is written after the fact, and that not each one of you could sit today with the handsome Vermont crowd of old dandies. Until Fliter returns for another concert, then, it is only possible to snatch her albums and elevate ourselves up into the clouds.



Spotlight on... Jordan Nassar

You've seen him around. Tall, skinny, attractive boy in tight, ripped jeans and old-school Nikes spray-painted gold complete with slap bracelet and very '90s hat with the word "Peck" cocked to the side. And of course, large headphones and a cigarette are always part of the package. Jordan Nassar '07.5 is a Japanese major from Manhattan who brings a little bit of outside counter culture in music and fashion to Middlebury. *The Campus* took a few minutes to find out a little more about him.



Courtesy

***The Middlebury Campus*: Describe your J-Term project concerning Tokyo's mix of gay, fashion and clubbing culture.**

Jordan Nassar: I wrote a creative independent 500 project for my Japanese major featuring creative non-fiction vignettes about the intersection of these three cultures. While I was abroad during spring 2006, I met mad awesome people. Some of them work in fashion, some are gay and others DJ or organize club events. I noticed an overlap in these three identities: many of my friends fit that description. I knew I wanted to return to Tokyo and decided to write about it. I wasn't drawing conclusions, I just wanted to show this alternative subculture to others and remember my experiences in the process.

***TC*: Have fashion and clubbing culture always been a part of your identity? Or did they emerge after you came out?**

JN: I've always liked music and dancing — clubbing came later just because of my age. Fashion-wise, I never wanted to draw attention to myself before coming out because I was always internally afraid of being called gay. When I came out I called myself gay and it was no longer a fear. There's a certain freedom of expression that comes with coming out. These identities linked, however, in Tokyo where my friends ran parties at clubs for fashion kids.

***TC*: Tell me about how your life in Tokyo artistically compares to your life here.**

JN: Well there are no clubs and not that many gay people at Middlebury, and even fewer people with an interest in fashion that extends outside the newest color of "Ugg." However, I am involved with WRMC as Music Director. That keeps me connected to what's going on in the world musically. In terms of a club, I'm working hard to get the Hamlin Club idea, Xanadu, off the ground. We're having a "dry run" (i.e. no alcohol) with a WRMC dance party Friday, April 6.

***TC*: How do you see yourself making these things a part of your life after college?**

JN: Tokyo is a place where being involved with the world of fashion and music means being young. Therefore I am planning on going there directly after college. Some of my older friends, who are only 28, own magazines and clubs, and I've been offered jobs through them. I'm thinking I'll follow in their footsteps. I can't think of anything better than being there. Here, people look at me funny because of the way I dress. There, I get offered jobs as a stylist or a fashion editor's assistant.

***TC*: I understand you've also done some modeling?**

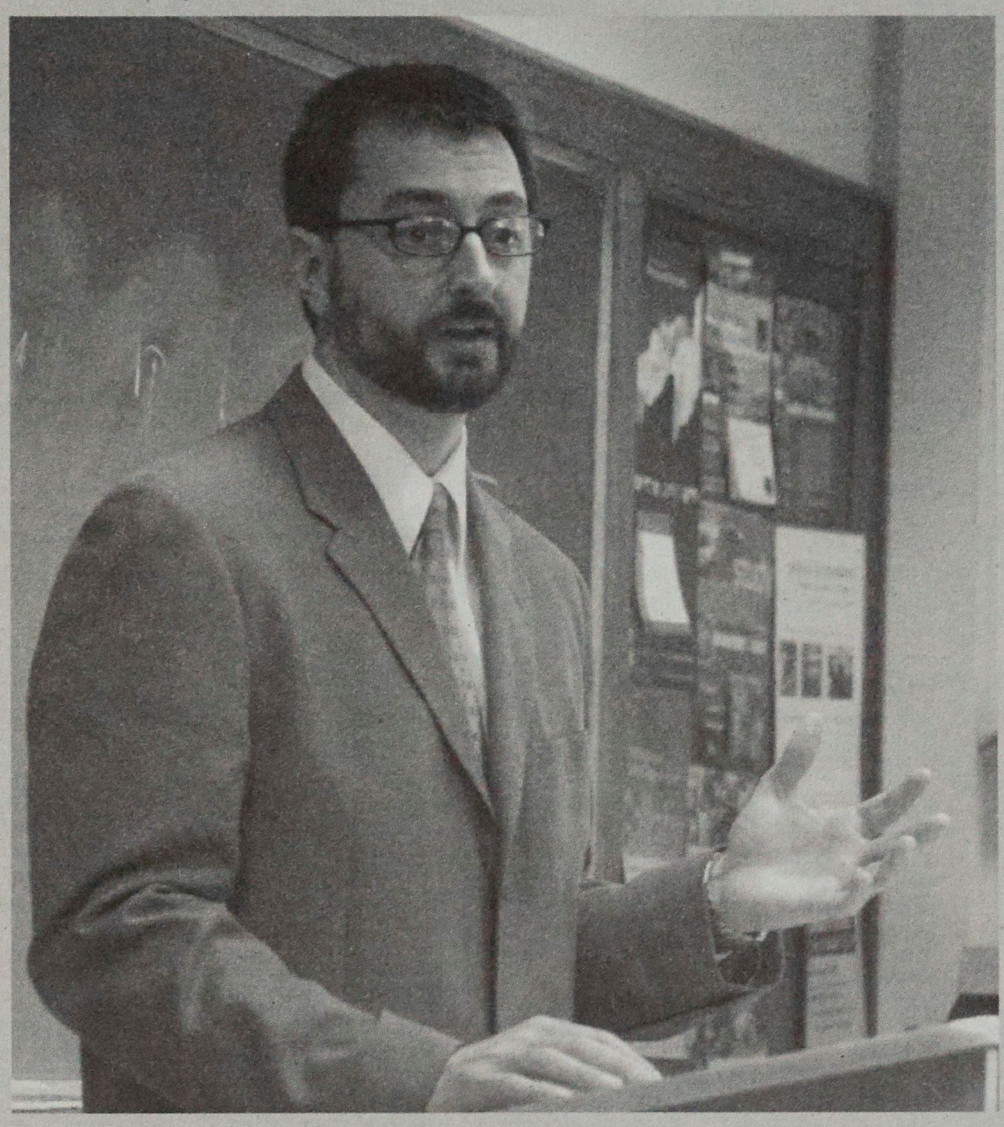
JN: I've been in a few men's fashion magazines. One time I was noticed on the street in Tokyo but the jobs have mostly been organized through friends. There's something ridiculous about getting paid to stand there and wear really nice clothes, but then again I love Vivienne Westwood and Comme des Garçons. Getting to wear their clothes was sweet because Lord knows I can't afford that. I know it's silly, but I'm getting paid, so I figure, why not?

***TC*: Aside from your Japanese 500 project, you've also done some writing for *Sweatervest*. Any thoughts of becoming a writer someday?**

JN: I write for me and about me — it's like keeping a journal but it comes out less frequently and in the form of creative non-fiction. I would love to be a writer because I don't have the urge to settle in one particular place, and I think it would be a good way for me to work and travel at the same time. But at the moment, I'm just going to go with whatever will put food on the table after graduation.

-Kelsey Smith

Teaching trauma



A coveted office in the hallowed halls of second floor Munroe has become available and the enigmatic English department is not taking the matter of a new name plaque lightly. Canidates from across the country are entering into a battle of eloquence and wit, wielding their Ivy league educations and extensive vocabularies in attempt to prove who is the most worthy of the alphabet following their name.

Doctoral Candidate Trevor Dodman from Boston College delivered one of a sesries of lectures held by the department to introduce the staff and students to the various prospective professors.

His lecture titled, "Going All To Pieces": *A Farewell to Arms* as Trauma Narrative, examined the psychological as well as physical damage caused by the Second World War. Through multiple citations from the text accompanied by his own academic insights, Dodman dissected Hemingway's poignant portrai of a man suffering tangible as well as metaphorical loss.

Other candidates will continue to give lectures throughout the academic year.

for the record

by Melissa Marshall

It started with the whisper of a spark, slowly leaping from laptop to laptop, airwave to airwave, setting the indie music scene aflame. In the fall of 2004, mourners of a genre which seemed to be suffering from an incurable case of apathy and staleness threw off their bereavement black and slipped on their headphones as Montreal's experimental rock quintet The Arcade Fire ushered in a morning of articulate symphonies and wavering vocals. *Funeral*, the band's debut, put to rest any early criticism of the group's eccentric mixing of bossa nova and classically tinged rhythms as repeated spins of the virgin disc baptized the five-piece outfit fronted by husband-and-wife team Win Butler and Regine Chassagne into the reflective-rock canon. *Funeral* may have pumped blood back into the heart of the college music scene while The Decemberists' *The Crane Wife* and The Hold Steady's *Boys and Girls in America* kept the circulation moving, but in 2007 the dramatic post-rock junkies are jonesin' for a new fix. The Arcade Fire has answered with their highly anticipated March release, *Neon Bible*.

I don't want to mimic the call of the wild hipster, claiming, "Their first album was better, their first album was better." But *Neon Bible*, with its over-the-top organ accompaniment and charged religious and political imagery, seems ostentatious when compared to the more low-fi sound of its predecessor. However, despite lacking the indulgent, cathartic nature that made *Funeral* so comforting, you still have to give the band credit for looking outward instead of inward on *Neon Bible*. Their sophomore release is concerned more with worldly affairs than familial — targeting the government, the church, the music industry and even human nature.

The opening track's title, "Black Mirror." references the centuries-old device famed to have the power to foretell future events and offer insight into the hearts of men. The song features the line, "Mirror mirror on the wall, show me where them bombs will fall," laced over synth drum beats and sung in a retro-80s style resurrected by such acts as She Wants Revenge and Interpol. Granted Butler's poetry has a tendency to fall flat, but it's always been his impeccable delivery that has given his words their resonance, and when he does miss a note, Jeremy Gara's steady drums and Tim Kingsbury's driving bassline sweep it back into the forward motion of the album.

While the conception of *Funeral* is often attributed to the influences of Bowie and Byrne, The Arcade Fire took a page from The Killers in their writing of *Neon Bible* — Butler's low growl, blue-collar references and steady acoustic strumming on "Antichrist Television Blues" play as an obvious reincarnation of Bruce Springsteen. And while the subject matter is more grounded and Butler's voice lower on *Neon Bible*, there is still an essence of the ethereal which was so poignantly present in *Funeral's* epic closure, "In the Backseat," tip-toeing among the tracks of the band's follow-up. While the incantatory church organs and Calexico horns dappled throughout the album make you feel the angst of a service, it is the clarion voice of Chassagne that moves the spirit. Her more prominent presence on their sophomore release is certainly praiseworthy, as her contributions to tracks such as "The Well and the Lighthouse" and "Black Wave" float in stark contrast to Butler's heavy-handed singing technique.

The Arcade Fire's daring endeavor ends with "My Body is a Cage," a track whose slow heart-beat melds with a melodramatic melody that permeates the entire disc. While *Neon Bible* is impressive in its ingenuity and social conscience, the Montreal post-rockers seem to be trapped not by their flesh and blood, but by their high-minded ideal of what a follow-up album is "supposed" to be. *Neon Bible* may be a slightly lackluster second-coming from a band that shook the industry's foundation in 2004, but you still have to genuflect before their undying efforts to resurrect reflection and creativity in a genre littered with false prophets and iniquitous imitations.

Regally Blonde

By Astri von Arbin Ahlander

Episode X: A Hairy Situation

I have booked myself a hair dressing appointment in a couple of days. I hadn't planned on anything special. Just a trim. Clean it up a little. Maybe add some layers. But then this afternoon, I saw myself in the mirror and thought: should I go crazy? Maybe it's time to cut it all off. Be daring. Why not? "Britney, that's why not," is the obvious answer. But I'm not talking about the shave-off a la the pop Titanic (though both Demi Moore and Natalie Portman were able to pull it off). I'm thinking more in line with the bob. Because increasingly, the bob seems to be bobbing up everywhere.

Perhaps it's a nostalgic return to the 90s and "Pulp Fiction," which in turn traces its female lead's dark roots back to the 60s and Godard's muse, Anna Karina. Both of these unforgettable short dos were complimented by the straight-across bangs for a framed porcelain doll look that bridges on the unreal. Other varieties of the bob include shaggier edges, with or without the accompaniment of forehead hugging strands. Then there's the hipster mullet that we all shuddered at but pretended to love a couple of years ago. It may not have counted as a bob in the conventional sense, but the front was often so short in comparison to the back that I think it's fair to say it was a bob-hybrid.

When getting a new haircut, it is important to take the upcoming season into consideration. How will the bob do as the warmer air approaches? The length gets two thumbs up, but the bangs — providing a heat-capturing film over half your face — may not be the best decision when you're rubbing sweaty elbows on an overheated New York subway. Then, there's the inability to put it up in a ponytail. Or to wear it in salt-water soaked braids on the beach. Or to show up to morning class with it tastefully mussed-up. Or…

I'm becoming predictable again. Finding all kinds of justifications for staying with my long hair, because there is something fundamentally frightening about getting your hair cut. I share nothing with those kids who let their friends bring out the scissors in the dorm bathroom, or, even worse, the ones who snip happily away at their own tresses. I am what you might call a hair conservative, terrified of change lest it leads to what I imagine as irreversible damage. How bad can it be? Hair grows back. I've heard that before. I've repeated it to myself as a mantra before a hair cut. But still, once you get me in that revolving chair, I choke up and order the safest thing on the menu.

In what is my hair terror rooted? Perhaps it stems from my Lutheran upbringing — a combination of Samson and the worship of Scandinavian simplicity. Another answer can be found in laziness — the long hair doesn't need much upkeep while the short do needs styling. But more importantly, I think it's a problem of trust. I don't like the feeling of a stranger, often with a horrifying hair style in multiple colors, slicing away at an extension of my body, telling me they know "exactly what I want."

No matter how tempting the cinematic references and doll-like cuteness of this season's bobbed *It*-do, my nerves are far from handling a serious shearing. Besides, while the bob may be hot right now, the fall runway shows all point to a come-back for the limp and lanky. So, when I freeze with fear at the salon next week, I'll say I'm not wimping out — I'm just planning ahead.

Student parades patriotic pipes

Jennifer Guest awakens audience to American anthems

By Beth Connoly

Staff Writer

Posters promoting Jennifer Guest's senior recital display Guest posed in a cowboy hat and checked Western shirt. Beneath the photograph is the title of her concert: "USA is A-OK! An evening of American Song." At first glance, I might have thought that the concert featured country music. That misconception was dispelled after listening to Guest's recital last Saturday night in the Center for the Arts. Guest, with a piano accompaniment provided by music instructor Cynthia Huard, took her audience on a journey through American music and the American musical.

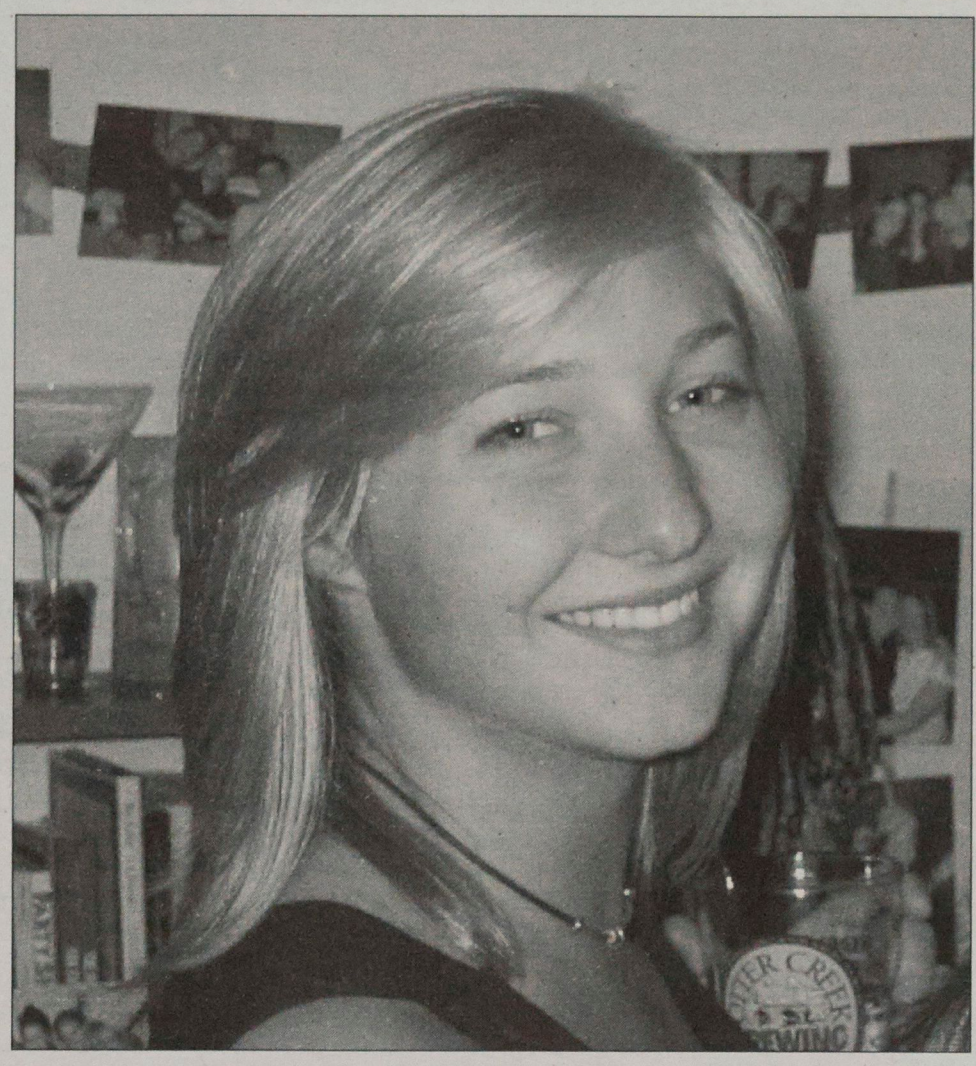
Music has been a life-long passion for Guest, a joint music and political science major from Washington, D.C. (Though the political science major is something that "a lot of people think is strange," Guest was attracted to a liberal arts college, instead of a conservatory, because of the opportunity to extend her academic focus beyond music.)

"Even if it doesn't turn into a career, now I have an understanding of music that I can enjoy for the rest of my life," she said. After graduation, Guest hopes to attend a musical theatre graduate program in New York that incorporates voice, dance and acting. Other options include attending a voice conservatory in England or working as a paralegal in D.C.

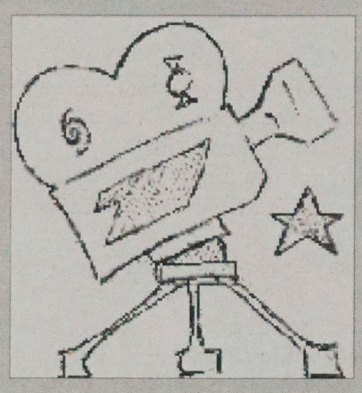
Why American music? Guest was inspired by working on Aaron Copland's "Laurie's Song" for a past recital. "I love Copland for his ability to convey so much in simple melodic lines and harmonizations. Laurie's Song' in particular has a pretty distinct 'American' sound, perhaps because of its simplicity. I wanted to explore this in other composers and see what, if anything, distinguished their music as 'American.' The second half of the program developed out of my love for musical theater and was a way for me to narrow down the thousands of songs to choose from," she said.

Hence the recital included first a series of American classical compositions, followed by a selection from Broadway musicals. The opening section, with pieces by Samuel Barber, Aaron Copland, and Leonard Bernstein, showcased Guest's powerful voice and sensitive approach. The Broadway portion of the show included a mix of beloved classics and relatively unknown pieces; Guest attempted to "represent the major musicals and composers of the 20th century." Her choices included songs from "Show Boat," "Roberta," "Kiss Me Kate," "Thoroughly Modern Millie," and "Avenue Q," among others. Though many of the songs from "AvenueQ"deal with topics too explicit for inclusion in her recital, Guest managed to find one song that was appropriate. "There's a Fine, Fine Line," deals with the pain of unrequited love with sympathy.Guest also included a song from the groundbreaking 1970 Stephen Sondheim musical, "Company," a production hailed for its innovative structure in portraying middle class life and startling characterization. The recital's final piece was "The Beauty Is," from "Light in the Piazza." As Guest explained to the audience, she had a teacher who thought that she was perfect to play the main role in this musical. She was flattered until she discovered that the main character, Clara, was mentally unstable; she was kicked in the head by a horse as a child. Regardless of the true meaning of the "compliment' she had received, Guest took on the persona of the childlike main character convincingly,

In "The USA is A-OK," Jennifer Guest succeeded in her goal of exposing her audience to a stimulating variety of American songs. What does it mean for a song to be American? From Guest's recital, one might determine that it means a song may be based on themes of love, passion or escape, and sung with a distinct personality.



Guest, a joint music and political science major from Washington, D.C., treated audience members to an evening of American music.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Josh Wessler

MOVIE | God Grew Tired of Us
DIRECTOR | Tommy Walker
STARRING | The Lost Boys, Nicole Kidman's Voice

"God Grew Tired of Us" is a powerful but flawed documentary about crossing invisible political boundaries that feel more like brick walls. As political refugees from Sudan, the subjects of the movie are afforded homes and the opportunities to work in the United States. Yet, the problems they face are largely psychological – the vivid memories of war and lost relationships. At one point we hear of a Sudanese immigrant who is found wandering the streets in a state of mental distress. The line that separates war in Sudan from stability in the United States is anything but certain.

After the Sudanese Civil War restarted in 1983, 27,000 homeless, young boys (known as the Lost Boys) spent the next decade fleeing violence and staying in refugee camps in Ethiopia and Kenya. The documentary's main characters are the fortunate ones who procured flights out of Kenya and pursue working permits in the United States – many of these men have been attending benefit screenings and speaking about their experiences.

As the movie's title suggests, there is a distinct biblical undercurrent. The Lost Boys, following their exile from fertile lands along the Nile, suffer a trial through the desert and emerge from the "wilderness" starving and devastated. This is poetic, but ultimately, unfair because it assigns storybook qualities to human subjects.

The filmmakers want us to realize that the problems faced by Sudanese refugees are problems faced by people in our neighborhoods. The film is essentially part of a campaign to raise awareness and funds for programs like the New Sudan Education Initiative, an international Burlington-based group working to bring more schools to southern Sudan. As part of a grassroots movement, the film has garnered praise from audiences at Sundance Film Festival as well as support from local initiatives like the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program. Yet, "God Grew Tired of Us" can and should be judged as a movie in its own right. For most audiences, such criticism will seem superficial. But to merely capture a story, package it and distribute it is not the same as doing it justice.

At times, the film feels like a reality television show. Though the photography is lush, the interviewers are not very talented and the responses they get are not very diverse. Many of the questions are pointed at how America is different from life at home. What results is a semi-critique of American culture in general. Roasting Americans for being rude and wasteful may be fun, but it's beside the point. The result is that the filmmakers resort to antiquated stereotypes that lampoon western culture as the antithesis to the pristine, innocent landscape of colonized countries. The most blatant expression of this simplification is the portrayal of the Lost Boys as biblical characters, or as Peter Pan's naïve crew of wandering orphans.

The film's structure is relatively straightforward. We follow the three main characters, John Dau, Daniel Abul Pach and Panther Bior) as they move into their first apartments, find new jobs and acclimate to the new culture. Between these stagy moments their introspections float across the new and sometimes dangerous landscapes of their American world. Nicole Kidman narrates but has no other participation in the film, confirming our lurking concern that this is an anthropological video to be shown on National Geographic. Though she brings star power (along with executive producer Brad Pitt), the exclusion of the filmmakers' voices is impersonal.

From a wider perspective, the film is much like a large geologic feature. Regardless of its faults, it is broad in its ambition and its appeal. The small cracks that run through it lose meaning because it provides a solid foundation for a more important political movement – one that has brought attention and donor money to one of the most disgraceful examples of diplomatic negligence, and to the efforts to bring education and stability to the Sudan.

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INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Dave Campbell '09 and Dave Campbell '00 are two different people, though their shared athletic success playing lacrosse would have you think otherwise.

Campbell '00 was a two-time All-American and all-NESCAC player, leading the Panthers to a 52-10 record during his time at Middlebury. He led the team to its first ever NCAA Championship as a player his senior year and to its second the next year as an assistant coach. For the past three seasons, Campbell '00 was head coach for the Connecticut College Camels.

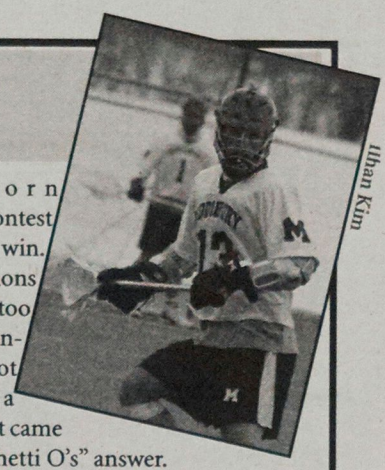
In his senior year at The Holderness School in Plymouth, N.H., Campbell '09 led his lacrosse team to a 15-2 season. The team became the North New England Lacrosse League Champions, Lakes Region League Champions and the Eastern New England Division I Tri Champions. Campbell was named a US Lacrosse All-American.

Campbell '09 and Campbell '00 teamed up to lead the Panthers to a 10-9 defeat of Campbell '00's former team Sunday at Kohn Field. Teammate and suitemate Rory Sanborn '08 was on the sidelines with Campbell '09, while Ben Hanna '08, the two-year hallmate of Campbell '09, watched from the stands. Outside of Campbell's '09 athletic success, how well do the two know him?

Hanna contends that Campbell '09's favorite part about being abroad in Australia last fall was spending everyday with Sanborn. While Campbell will tell you his favorite part was a road trip to Bryon Bay with four friends in a camper, it is clear from the results that Hanna got something right — Sanborn and Campbell got to know each other in Australia.

Dave Campbell faces off with *The Campus*

	Campbell	Sanborn	Hanna
Which team are you looking forward to playing most in the regular season?	Wesleyan	Tufts JUMBOS (0)	Amherst (0)
LAX or Lacrosse?	LAX	LAX!!! (1)	Lacrosse (0)
What is your favorite kind of Campbell's Soup?	Condensed Tomato with Ritz crackers	Chicken Noodle (0)	Spaghetti O's (0)
Kohn Field or Alumni Stadium?	I love the grass. Alumni Stadium	Alumni Stadium (1)	Alumni Stadium (1)
What is your favorite singer?	Jack Johnson	Jack Johnson (1)	Dave Matthews (0)
What is your favorite Adam Sandler movie?	Billy Madison	Happy Gilmore (0)	Waterboy (0)
Ross or Atwater dining hall?	Atwater	Atwater (1)	Ross, because he's lazy (0)
final score		4	1


Ilhan Kim

Sanborn took the contest with a 4-1 win. The questions proved too much for Hanna, who got nothing but a big O when it came to the "Spaghetti O's" answer.

Campbell said he does not have any pre-game superstitions, but his suitemate and teammate Sanborn said before games Campbell gets ready listening to the theme song from "The Boondock Saints."

Campbell's focus on this season is unwavering. When asked where he would go if he could go anywhere for spring break, Campbell did not consider Mexico or Disney World, but said "Lexington, Va. (Washington and Lee) with the team."

Before heading south to face Washington and Lee, the Panthers will face Springfield and Bowdoin. Before heading out for your spring break, come see Campbell and the rest of the men's lacrosse team take Springfield's Pride on Wednesday, at 4 p.m.

— Brooke Farquhar, Sports Editor

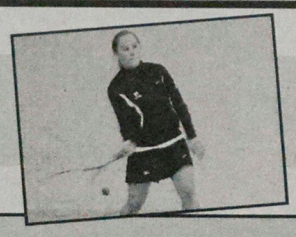
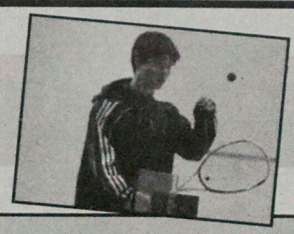
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
Mar. 16	Women's Hockey	Univ. of Wisconsin-Stevens Point	5-1 W	First-year Lani Wright had 26 saves, finishing her first season in the goal at 13-2.
Mar. 17	Women's Hockey	Plattsburgh State	2-1 L	The Panthers end their season with an impressive 23-4-2 record.
Mar. 17	Men's Hockey	Manhattanville	3-2 W	Doug Raeder '09 had 34 saves, and Yev Saidachev '07 scored the game winner.
Mar. 18	Men's Hockey	Oswego	4-3 L OT	Thirteenth straight year the men have had a 20-win season. Now they finally can shave.
Mar. 18	Men's Lacrosse	Connecticut College	10-9 W	Tom Petty '09 and Jim Cabrera '08 each had three goals and an assist.

BY THE NUMBERS

0-3	Record for Panther athletic teams in playoff games that have gone into overtime this winter.
1333	Number of fans at the women's NCAA hockey championship game between Middlebury and Plattsburgh State on March 17.
1052	Number of fans at the men's NCAA hockey championship game between Middlebury and Oswego State on March 18.
1393	Average attendance for Middlebury men's hockey games this season.
359	Average attendance for Middlebury women's hockey games this season.

Editors' Picks

Questions of the week	Brooke Farquhar	Simon Keyes	Jeff Patterson
Which team, baseball or softball, will register more punchados (Ks) during its marathon of games over spring break?	BASEBALL With a deeper bullpen the men's team will stay fresh and have more Ks.	BASEBALL 2006 All-NESCAC pitcher Jack Britton '08 had an electrifying 8.1 K/9 last year and 62 Ks in only 69 innings. The 62 Ks were more than half of softball's total for the year.	SOFTBALL With an extra game over spring break, and pitching pointers from Daisuke Matsuzaka in Fort Myers, Fla., softball will win this contest.
Who will win the Sony Ericsson Open?	FEDERER In his first appearance at a Sony Ericsson Open, he will show Miami and the Atlantic he's still alive, even though his winning streak died at the Pacific Life Open.	FEDERER Federer simply got bored in his loss to Guillermo Canas in the Pacific Life Open. He will dominate in Miami this week, a city in which he has already won twice.	FEDERER The Federeral Express will deliver again, proving that his recent loss was an aberation. He has the head and the headband needed to win big tennis tournaments.
Which conference will have the most representatives in the Elite Eight?	SEC Florida, Tennessee and Vander-built all looking strong. I predict a sunny showing in the Elite Eight.	TIE UCLA will avenge last year's loss to Florida in this year's Final Four, while Oregon makes two for the Pac-10, and Kansas and Texas A&M make two for the Big 12.	PAC-10 The teams from the Pac-10 will travel in the biggest pack to the Elite Eight.
What will be the lowest ranked team playing at the Final Four?	SEVEN It's a long shot, but UNLV is shaping up to be this year's Cinderella story. I'm not cheering — if they go, my bracket breaks.	THREE Acie Law IV of Texas A&M continues to write a script, a la Adam Vinatieri and Joe Montana, on being clutch at crunch time.	THREE Three is my lucky number.
How many NHL teams from New York state will be working on their playoff beards after the regular season ends?	TWO The Sabres and the Rangers are in range of the playoffs, but the Islanders have a long way to go to reach playoff promised land.	TWO The Sabres and the Rangers will dance for the Cup, while the Islanders' difficult remaining schedule will leave them stranded without a paddle.	THREE Three is my lucky number.
Record	**3-4 (.429)**	**3-7 (.300)**	**24-21 (.533)**

Moffat controls canine collars and wins 600 dollars

By Brooke Farquhar
Sports editor

A fear of chipmunks is not a quality commonly attributed to athletes.

The appearance of chipmunks is, however, Leslie Moffat's '10.5 biggest fear since chipmunks serve as her sled-dogs' biggest distraction. But at this year's Laconia World Championship Sled Dog Derby held March 3-5, Moffat had nothing to worry about, as her focused team led her to the winner's circle — and not off course in a chipmunk chase.

Oakie, Alex, Tater, Biscuit, Doughboy, Perry and Moffat came in second out of nine teams in the six-dog class. Moffat and the dog team raced the six-mile course on day one with a time of 22:10, and on day two, shaved off two whole minutes to finish in 20:12. Moffat made about $600 in winnings on the weekend, but she gave all the money to her neighbor Fran Plaisted, whose dogs pulled her in the race.

"Even if I wasn't using my neighbor's dogs," Moffat said, "I would still give all the money to the person whose dogs I'm racing."

Moffat first met Plaisted when she was four years old. The Moffat family moved down the road and sold their home to the Plaisteds, who set up kennels and left Leslie the open invitation to come and train with them whenever she wanted.

Moffat quickly accepted the invitation. She learned the commands "gee" (right) and "haw" (left) before she learned how to use a blinker.

At the age of 11, Moffat entered her first sled dog race in Meredith, N.H. She raced a three-dog team in the junior class, going three miles with dogs Ranger, Chip and Dale.

If you have not yet noticed, the inspiration for sled dog names is unlimited. Whether it is based on animated Disney cartoons, like "Chip 'n' Dale Rescue Rangers," or on the food the dogs are fed, anything is fair game.

"The names get pretty creative," said Moffat, "because people have so many dogs."

The saying, "You are what you eat", also applies to the dog world — especially the dogs who raced with Moffat at Laconia.

While Muffin could not race because of a shoulder injury, her brothers Biscuit, Tater and Doughboy did. All four are descendents of their German Pointer father who Plaisted fed bread and pancakes to gain weight. His offspring adopted the name "Carbohydrate Litter" in his honor.

As a Feb, having the fall semester off was advantageous for Moffat. Training usually begins in the fall because the weather is cool enough for the dogs to run comfortably. With no papers to write or exams to take, Moffat commuted to Cobble Hill Kennel in New Haven, Vt. to work with the huskies, who were all six months or older.

A puppy usually begins training at six months old with a small team of older dogs, running in dirt or sand to avoid injury and pulling behind them a four-wheeler to build muscle. After months of getting used to dragging a couple hundred pounds of weight, these dogs fly with a 30-pound sled, plus the varying weight of the driver behind them.

At this point in training, the dogs begin to anticipate racing.

"The dogs know when you switch them from a four-wheeler to a sled," said Moffat, "and they start to get more competitive."

Moffat is not sure if Santa trains his reindeer with the same system, but she thinks his sled probably weighs more than 30 pounds, and he probably weighs more than the average sled-dog driver.

Sled dog competitions are set up according to the number of dogs in a team, and the distances range accordingly. Six-dog teams run about six-mile races, and eight-dog teams run eight miles.

The biggest competition is the Open Classic event, which can span anywhere from 15-20 miles, and the number of dogs is unlimited. The largest number of dogs Moffat has seen hitched up in an Open Classic is between 22 and 24.

Although not as competitive, a normal race day also includes a one-dog junior class for younger kids. "They are very cute to watch," said Moffat.

Unexperienced spectators at sled dog competitions may be shocked to see how skinny the dogs look, but on a cold winter day in which a team is running a long distance race, each dog will consume 10,000 calories.

On top of carbo-loading, just like athletes the canine competitors spend more time training than competing.

Plaisted said her dogs, "usually have about 200 to 300 miles on them before their first race, which includes both dirt and snow miles."

Their training tapers a few weeks before the Laconia race, and the racing schedule is constructed accordingly, with a weekend off in January. During the race the dogs learn to pace themselves, just like cross-country runners, though their pace is a little bit faster than the average human sprinter. The dogs run approximately 22 miles per hour for the full time.

Being pulled off the course at 22 miles per hour is a pretty terrifying experience. As

Courtesy

Leslie Moffat '10.5 and her team charge ahead at the Laconia World Championship Dog Sled Derby. Her six sled dogs ran the six-mile course at an average speed of 22 miles per hour.

Moffat explained, "Although these dogs go through years of intense training, any dog will chase a chipmunk."

In the event that a chipmunk crosses in front of the dogs during a race, the driver will resort to one of the many brake contraptions on the sled. On the bottom of the sled is a snowmobile tread that the driver can step on to slow down. There is also a "snow hook", which acts as an anchor that catches so the driver can get off.

When asked if she felt like it was bad luck to be pulled by dogs who were named after cartoon chipmunks in her first race, Moffat answered, "I do remember one time when we were training and [Ranger, Chip and Dale] dragged me off the trail after a chipmunk, but they were good dogs and they knew they were supposed to take care of me."

You might be disappointed to learn this, but according to Moffat, the word "mush" is not used commonly in the sport. She refers to the use of the term as a "Disney creation," that is consistent with their misrepresentation of teams made up of Siberian huskies in films such as "Eight Below."

The dogs used in real sled dog races are Alaskan huskies, often with German Pointer bred into them. Pointers are athletic and have long legs, so they are ideal to cross breed with the thick fur coats of an Alaskan husky.

Do the dogs know they are in a race? Until a chipmunk comes along, it seems they do. According to Moffat, as the announcer approaches the signal for the start, "the dogs know what five...four...three...two...one go" means.

A question often asked of jockeys in the Kentucky Derby is whether they think the horses know they have won. When it comes to sled dog competitions, Moffat had mixed feelings.

"I don't know if the dogs know if they have won or not," she said, "but they know what they're there for. They know when they are in a race because they will see a team ahead and speed up."

Although Moffat has yet to be steered off course by her dogs during a competition, she has seen her fair share of mud over the years.

"To start with, Leslie always ran an old-style wooden sled," Plaisted described. "The first time we let her run the high tech Danler Sled, which you can steer, she tipped it over, dragged along the ground and came back covered in mud. But she never let go of the team, and the mud never seemed to bother her."

Moffat's family owns horses, not dogs, but she hopes to keep racing in sled dog competitions while she is a student and even after she gets her undergraduate degree from Middlebury.

In Plaisted's opinion, Moffat is cut out for the job.

"She never complains, no matter how dirty she gets," said Plaisted.

Courtesy

In most sled dog competitions, there are substantial monetary prizes (and biscuits) waiting for the teams who cross the finish line the fastest.

Is there a place in hockey for fighting?

Pro hockey's black eye

By Peter Baumann
Staff Writer

For many athletes, the past three years have been memorable. Tiger Woods won four majors, Roger Federer won 10 Grand Slams and Sidney Crosby went from a 17-year-old kid to a 19-year-old prodigy leading the NHL in points. Steve Moore, of course, has done… nothing.

Three years ago, Moore was assaulted during the waning minutes of a 9-2 Colorado Avalanche victory by Vancouver Canucks forward Todd Bertuzzi. Watching the game live on a local network, the play still resonates as the most heart-wrenching moment I have ever seen. I remember watching Bertuzzi follow Moore into the corner, poking him in the back, begging for a fight, watching Moore head up-ice into the play followed by Bertuzzi and watching Bertuzzi toss down his gloves and pounce on the unsuspecting Moore. But most of all, I remember the way Moore crumpled to the ice while the odious Bertuzzi went to hit him again.

Since then, in what some would call due penance for his attack on Moore, Bertuzzi has sat out one entire NHL season, been traded twice and spent the majority of this year on the disabled list. This has left many wondering if he will ever emerge from the shell of his former self. He still faces a civil lawsuit filed by Moore in a Vancouver court, but pleaded guilty to a minor misdemeanor criminal charge. He has completed the necessary probationary period, leaving his record clean. He is making over five million dollars this year to play the game that he loves.

Moore has not played since that fateful day. He still suffers from migraine headaches and chronic back problems. No wonder, considering that in less than two seconds, the 6'3", 245-pound Bertuzzi managed to fracture three of Moore's vertebrae, cause a grade three concussion, vertebral ligament damage, facial cuts and stretching of several nerves. Moore now lives a normal life that involves church at least once a week. A comeback is unlikely.

Three years to the day after the attack that left Moore unconscious on the ice, Chris Simon of the New York Islanders did his best Paul Bunyan impression, swinging his stick into the face of Rangers forward Ryan Holleweg. The sight of Holleweg lying on the ice, crimson blood spreading in sharp contrast to the luminous white jersey and the pale ice, brought me instantly back to the Moore incident. The attack made me realize that despite the pain Moore feels every day, the NHL has still not learned from his strife.

Why is the culture in hockey so violent? Hockey is the only major sport that allows fighting to take place within the confines of the game. In basketball, baseball and football, any players who begin to fight are instantaneously separated, and more often than not, kicked out of the game and suspended. In hockey, unbelievably, players are allowed to continue their pugilism while the referees stand by and watch. This gives rise to a culture predicated on self-policing and retaliation.

While only a criminal might be able to understand exactly what was going through Bertuzzi's head three years ago, retaliation certainly played a role. Two weeks earlier, Moore had injured Canucks' captain Markus Naslund. There was no penalty called, and upon review, the league determined that the hit was clean and no punishment was needed. This, however, did not appease the Canucks. They vowed to get revenge, with enforcer Bob May, in a scene taken right out of "The Sopranos," going as far as to put a bounty on Moore's head. Fourteen days later, Bertuzzi collected this bounty, his act of vigilant justice inspired by the ethos created by the NHL.

Simon's act, while terrible, was not the only disappointing thing that happened in the past few weeks. Following a late hit on his captain, Chris Drury, Sabres' coach Lindy Ruff placed five little-used enforcers on the ice. The next 10 minutes descended into anarchy as the players took the punishment for the hit on their teammate into their own hands. Despite their breakout season, I will always remember the Sabres not for their extraordinary accomplishments, but for the lack of integrity shown by their coach during a moment of passion.

By allowing fighting, the NHL is condoning the actions of Bertuzzi and Simon. For the sake of Moore, Holleweg and the sport in general, hockey needs to remove this black mark upon its legacy. Until it does, the beauty of Crosby and the skill of Alexander Ovechkin will always be overshadowed by the actions of goons.

Courtesy
Ryan Hollweg of the Rangers hits the ice after a vicious slash to the face by Islander Chris Simon.

There is honor in fighting

By David Infante
Staff Writer

After being hit into the boards on a hard check from the New York Rangers' Ryan Hollweg, Chris Simon of the New York Islanders struggled to his feet, shook himself off and proceeded to hit Hollweg in the face with a two-handed swing with his stick. This incident, the most recent in a league that has been tarnished several times by similar acts of wanton violence, has put the NHL's policies concerning violence under review. The league handed Simon its largest suspension in history, banning him for a minimum of 25 games, but the damage was done.

The hit reopened long-standing attacks on the league regarding the alleged contradictory message they preach by condemning vengeful acts of violence while simultaneously allowing fistfights between players. Critics of the league's policy on fighting argue that it sends a mixed message to players and viewers, insisting that the line that separates Simon's attack and man-to-man fighting is blurred.

However, fighting has been, and still is a legitimate aspect of professional hockey for an important reason. To the casual observer, a fistfight on the ice is a barbaric endeavor. The outbreak of a fight looks to be nothing more than a couple of undisciplined players wreaking havoc on each other. A hockey enthusiast knows better.

Hockey fights are remarkably more complex than the obvious display of physical ability. Professional hockey at every level is governed by what players refer to as "the code," a set of unwritten rules that guides the actions of players on the ice. The code has everything to do with honor and integrity. Simon's attack on Hollweg was a textbook display of a player "breaking the code." The code functions on a fundamental, eye-for-an-eye basis: if you play with respect, you will be respected, but if you play like a jerk, retribution is warranted.

Though most players in the league understand and abide by this sentiment, there is still need for an enforcement mechanism. Fighting serves exactly this purpose.

After a team's star suffers through continual rough play in front of the goal or on the boards, a coach may put the team's enforcer in on the same line to maintain the peace. If the dirty play continues, the fighter will seek out an opponent and start a fight to send the message to the opposing team that their game play is unacceptable.

This form of justice, which to the uneducated hockey fan seems to be nothing more than cavalier vigilantism, is integral to the game because it facilitates clean, competitive hockey rather than underhanded tactics and classless acts. More importantly, though no measure of sanctioning (either league-enforced rules or fighting) can prevent the type of impassioned and vengeful violence that characterized Simon's attack, fighting acts as a preemptive control on such vengeance. And, although the fights seem vicious, it is rare for either player to come away seriously injured.

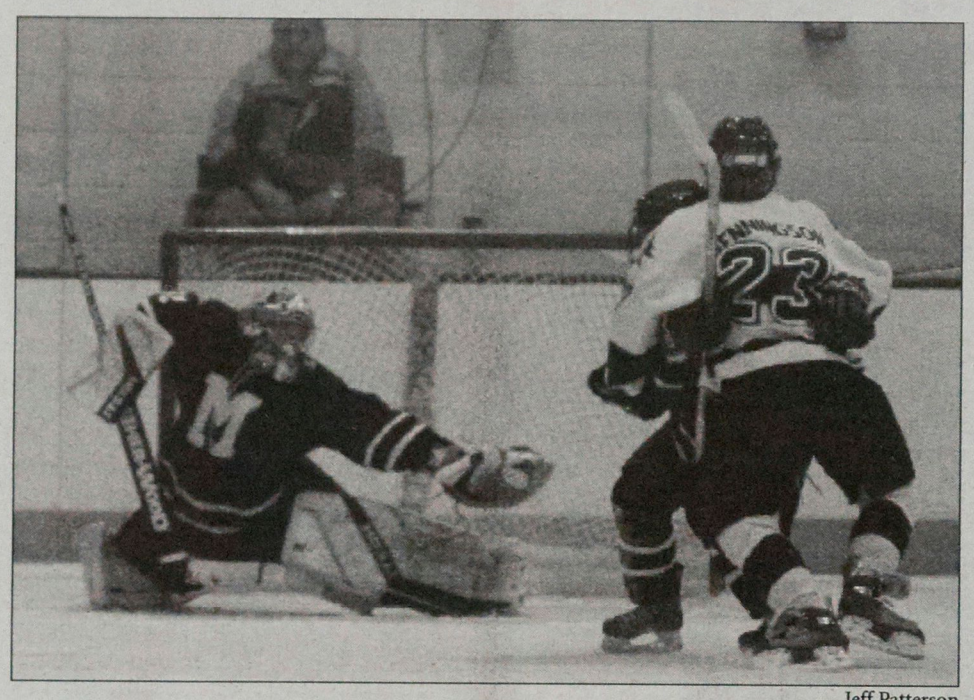
Though critics insist that if referees cracked down on NHL regulations star players would enjoy the same type of buffer, players would still be able to sneak dirty and potentially dangerous plays by the officials. When the teams themselves seek retribution, it is difficult to sneak such plays, because instead of four referees that may miss unsportsmanlike conduct, the entire bench is on watch and can react after the initial hit is administered. Fighting allows a legal way for players to police each other on the ice, it keeps the game safer and it results in an improvement in play.

Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of fighting, however, is that the code applies to it as well. In the NHL, fights rarely break out without warning. With the exception of certain situations in which violence has to be mitigated immediately, such as a team's goalie being hit or sprayed with ice intentionally, the progression to the eventual fight is deceivingly sportsmanlike.

Fights are generally premeditated occurrences that are agreed upon by both parties involved. The aggressor, commonly an "enforcer," will line up at the face-off circle after a bad hit or an out-of-line play and politely ask his counterpart if he wants to "go." If the player declines, the fight is off, and the enforcer must find a new opponent. If his challenge is accepted, the two will square off. There is a certain honor ingrained in the process of fighting that restrains players from the spontaneous – and therefore dangerous – retribution that results in physical harm.

Fighting is as much a part of hockey as the puck is. Beyond the strong tradition the quiet institution has in the professional game, it persists because it is a functional and honorable manner in which teams can control the gameplay of their opponents. Fighting keeps the game clean and skillful. To ban fighting with a blanketed moratorium on violence in the NHL would result in a decline in the level of play and a stark increase in the potential danger to the players.

Raeder '09 extended season



Jeff Patterson
In the last minute Doug Raeder stopped Manhattanville's Jason Murfitt with an outstreched glove.

Continued from page 24

ground with a huge save on Jason Murfitt's shot, gloving the puck at full extension. It was one of his career-high 34 stops on the night. Manhattanville had moments before called a timeout to set-up a play, but Middlebury's defense held on.

"They came right at me," said Raeder. "But our defense really stepped it up."

After four NESCAC championship titles, three NCAA Championships and now a NCAA runner-up, it is reasonable to label this year's senior class as one of the best in Middlebury hockey history. Ironically, it seems as if a different label prevented them from winning more than three NCAA titles. Peek inside any of the coaches' Middlebury jackets and you will see one word branded in big letters: Trimark.

Tom Petty '09 broke Connecticut's heart

By Andrew Donnantuono
Staff Writer

For the second consecutive week, Tom Petty '09 played a solid game for men's lacrosse. And for the second Sunday in a row, Petty helped Middlebury overcome capable visitors. In a match-up postponed because of Friday night's snowstorm, Petty scored a pivotal goal, and the Panthers withstood pressure from Connecticut College in the final seconds to win 10-9 at Kohn Field. The Panthers move to 2-0 on the season and will host Springfield College on Wednesday.

Connecticut (0-3) faced an uphill battle going into the game, but had at least one advantage coming into their NESCAC opener. First-year Middlebury Head Coach Dave Campbell '00 was at the helm of the Camels program for the previous three seasons. Their inside information might have helped as Kevin Nally quickly gave the guests a 1-0 edge 2:15 into the first quarter. The lead swelled to 4-1 after Matt Flanagan netted a riser surpriser with 12:04 remaining in the second. Down three, Middlebury never lost its composure, with nearly three quarters of the game to play. Attackman Jim Cabrera '08, who finished the game with three goals and an assist, took over and got the Panthers back on track.

Even though Connecticut looked good in the early going, Cabrera, an All-American, gave the fans a reason to cheer as he and his teammates scored five unanswered goals to close out of the half. Middlebury was poised to open the third quarter with a flourish and put the upstart Camels away.

Wind, cold weather and flurries throughout the game hardly affected the intensity on the field. Petty tallied another when he scored a sweet shot at 13:55 in the third quarter, diving from behind the net to beat Connecticut goalie Mark Moran and increase the lead to 7-4.

Having swapped a three-goal lead for a three-goal deficit, Connecticut set back to work. The diminutive Flanagan, listed at five-foot-five-inches, gave Middlebury fits all afternoon. Flanagan made a few nice feeds inside to Steve Dachille, and the Camels tied it up at 7-7 with 4:10 remaining in the third.

Ilhan Kim

Tom Petty scored a hat-trick in a 10-9 win over the Connecticut College Camels on March 18.

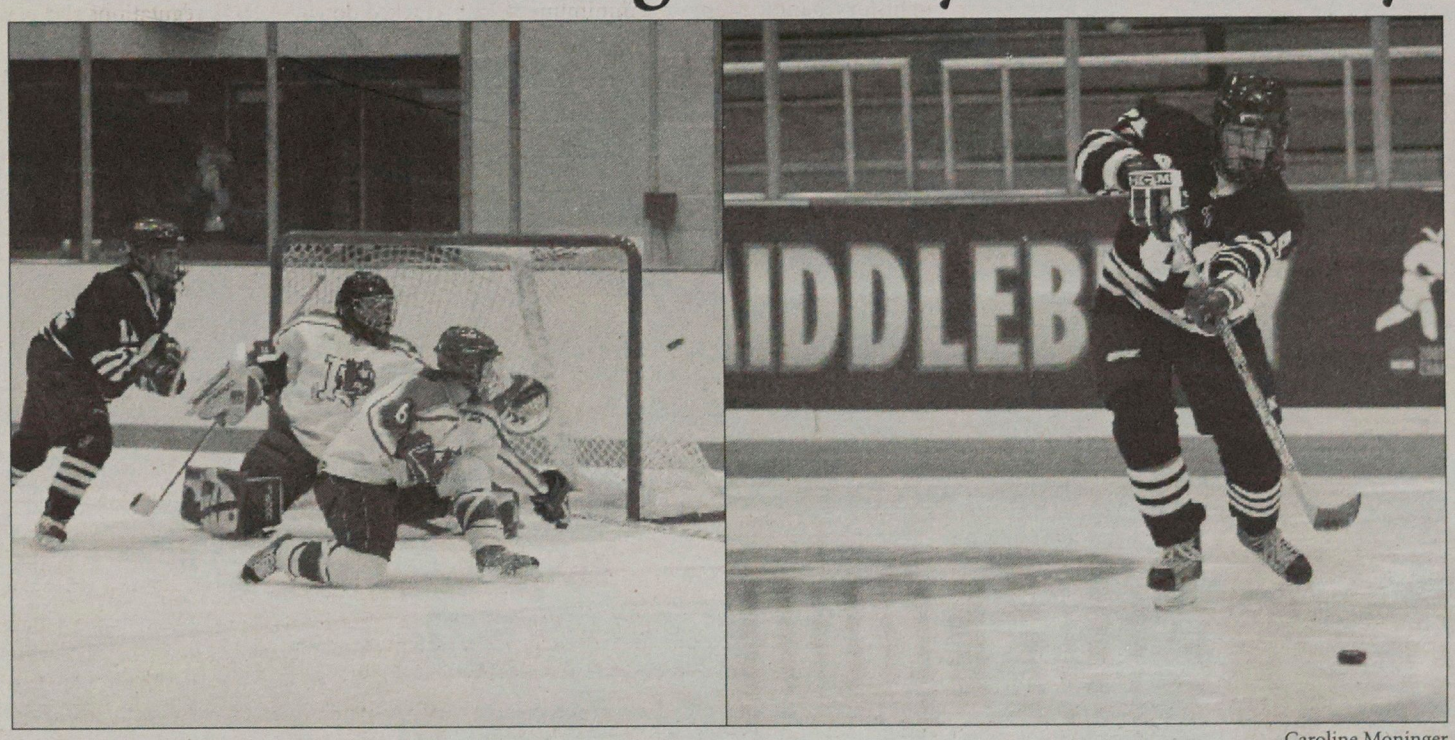
The fourth started at 8-8, and Connecticut hit a post with the chance of regaining the lead. Then Middlebury stepped it up. Seven days after scoring the game-winner against Stevens Institute of Technology, Petty decided not to dish it off on a fast break. Halfway through the fourth quarter, Petty put a sidearm crank shot into the upper corner, giving Middlebury a 9-8 lead.

Captain Peter Mellen '07 added to the margin, ripping an opportunistic crank shot from a few feet inside the restraining line. The last few minutes proved thrilling as Dachille pulled one back for Connecticut with 2:25 to go in regulation. Middlebury could only play keep away for so long, as Moran laid out for Connecticut and forced a turnover with about 35 seconds left. In the end, Craig Audin got off a pretty good shot for the Camels, but captain Alex Palmisano '07 knocked it aside at the buzzer.

Of Palmisano's save, Petty said, "the best part of yesterday's game was seeing Alex Palmisano save the last shot with less than ten seconds left on the clock."

Thanks largely to Mellen, Middlebury dominated face-offs, winning 21 of a possible 23 restarts. Both goalies had their work cut out for them, particularly Moran, who was barraged by 42 Middlebury shots and forced to make 17 saves. Palmisano rejected 11 Camels shots, the last of which secured the victory for Middlebury.

Women were one goal away on Saturday



Caroline Moninger

Captain Shannon Sylvester '07 (left) and the women's hockey team were inches away from beating number-one seed Plattsburgh State.

Continued from page 24

hole of goalie Bree Doyle.

The shift in momentum was clear, with the Panthers continuing to press for the remainder of the second frame and most of the third. This pressure provided the Panthers with a number of excellent scoring chances, particularly in the final minute of the game. Unfortunately for Middlebury, Doyle would not be foiled again.

The Panthers scored with greater ease in the semifinal game the night before against the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Pointers, a 5-1 victory for the Panthers.

Karen Levin '08 opened the scoring 13:12 into the first period with a power play goal off a pretty cross-ice feed from Annmarie Cellino '09. Ellen Sargent '07 extended the Panther lead to 2-0 a mere 1:11 into the second frame.

Sargent was selected by Mandigo as the Panthers' representative to address all four teams at a banquet on Thursday night. She stressed the importance of role players on all championship teams. Everyone has a role and one player's role is no less essential than any other's.

She viewed herself as a role player, she continued, and in such a team-oriented program, she had not only accepted but also come to embrace her role.

Sargent left no doubts this weekend about the essential role that she played on this team as she was named to the All-Tournament Team. She was joined by Shannon Tarrant '07, who was also named First-Team All-American earlier in the week. NESCAC Player of the Year Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07 also earned First-Team All-American honors.

Following Sargent's example, the Panthers unleashed a scoring barrage to open the third period. Molly Vitt '09 and Kurtz-Phelan scored two quick goals. Pointer Katy Lankey spoiled Wright's bid for a shutout late in the game with a shorthanded goal to bring the score to 4-1. Sylvester closed out the scoring with an empty netter with 55 seconds left.

Even with all of these wonderful moments to take away from the weekend, the lasting memory for this team will be those final 24 seconds.

"Obviously we were disappointed by the final score against Plattsburgh," said Erika Nakamura '09. "Each player wanted to win that championship for everyone else on the team, especially for the seniors. But the loss will motivate us for next season starting right now."

There is no better lesson that a group of seniors could impart on its teammates — refuse to give up, no matter the obstacle.

sportsbriefs

by Simon Keyes

Collier, men's swimming take 14th at Nationals

Led by Co-Captain Robert Collier '07, the Middlebury men's swimming and diving team finished 14th out of 52 teams at the 2007 Division III Championships held at the University of Houston on March 15-17.

Collier, one of eight Middlebury swimmers who made the trip to the Lonestar State, earned All-American recognition in two races, the 100 meter and 200 meter fly. In the 100, Collier finished in 50.08, enough for eighth place, while in the 200 he touched the wall in 1:51.08, good for sixth.

The men's 800 meter free relay team of Collier, Kevin O'Rourke '09, co-captain Tim Lux '07 and Schuyler Beeman '10 advanced all the way to the finals and finished its season in 12th place nationally by combining for a time of 6:55.13.

In the diving pool, first-year diver Brooks Farrar made a strong bid for All-American status in the three-meter event by tallying 421.10 points, which placed him ninth overall, just one spot out of the top eight needed to earn the recognition. In the 1 meter, Farrar finished in 14th overall with 396.35 total points.

The men concluded one of their most successful seasons to date, finishing with a regular season record of 6-1, while finishing fourth at NESCACs.

Tom Maldonado '08 named an All-American

Middlebury defenseman Tom Maldonado '08 was named an All-American by the American Hockey Coaches Association at the NCAA Championship Banquet on Friday, March 16.

Maldonado has been a model of consistency all year for the Panthers, appearing in every game this season. He led all the defenseman in total points scored, with 27, while his 24 assists were tops on the team.

In the title game on Sunday, Maldonado registered an assist in the heartbreaking 4-3 loss to Oswego in overtime.

Maldonado's skill and finesse on the ice spans beyond the hockey rink. Just five hours before being named an All-American, he bowled six strikes in a row en route to a team high 227 points in a team bowling competition.

Petty '09 is NESCAC's Player of the Week

A Middlebury men's lacrosse player has made his mark on the NESCAC league only two weeks into the season. This weekend, Tom Petty '09 was named NESCAC Player of the Week for March 19, 2007.

Petty's play was instrumental in the heated struggle between the Panthers and the Camels of Connecticut College this past Sunday. In the thrilling 10-9 victory, made especially difficult because of the previous night's snowfall which lowered temperatures to near freezing and rendered the field turf slick, Petty notched an assist and three goals, including a crucial tally that broke an 8-8 tie late in the fourth quarter.

Women's lax season opener postponed

The much anticipated season opener for the women's lacrosse team scheduled for March 17 was postponed until later in the year due to a blizzard which prevented the team from making the trek down to Connecticut College.

The Panthers now must wait until Saturday, March 24 when they will face NESCAC foe Bowdoin in the season opener. Meanwhile, fans of women's lacrosse must sit patiently until March 31 in order to see their team play at home against Colby.

Middlebury is currently the only team in the NESCAC that has yet to play a game.

Scott stops seniors' spectacular streak

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

In a game worthy of *SportsCenter*'s opening highlight, Oswego State — the alma mater of ESPN anchors Linda Cohen and Steve Levy — beat the men's hockey team 4-3 in overtime to win the NCAA D-III Championship. The Panthers forced extra time with a John Sullivan '10 goal with 2:25 left in the third period, but they could not beat Laker goalie Ryan Scott another time.

"Everyone on the ice was just battling to get that goal," said Mickey Gilchrist '08. "We kept saying, 'keep believing, keep working for it.'"

When it was all done, though, it was Scott who turned in the unbelievable performance. The Blueshirts pummeled him with 50 shots, but he came away scot-free, making 47 saves.

"To get this far [in the tournament] you have to have an outstanding goaltender," said Gilchrist. "I thought he played really well tonight. He deserves the win."

Jamie McKenna '09 and John Sales '07 answered Garren Reisweber's opening goal with successful long-range shots, but Oswego tied the game late in the second period and retook the lead five minutes into the third.

After a charter flight to Duluth, Minn. (the closest airport to Superior, Wis.) on Thursday night, the Panthers found themselves in uncharted territory — down a goal — while playing in Sunday's Championship game. Prior to Oswego's outscoring overtime, no one on the team had ever trailed — let alone allowed a goal — in a game when the gold championship trophy was on the line.

Reisweber scored the golden goal, 12:55 into sudden death, after flying down the right wing. The Oswego bench erupted and the players spilled out onto the ice in celebration. Green gloves were thrown on the ice, while Panther players, coaches and fans stood there shocked, green with envy.

"We had our chances to do the same," said Coach Bill Beaney. "We just didn't put them away. That's the game."

On the first night in Wisconsin, Cliff, the Middlebury bus driver, had told the curious cargo, "Your hotel is on an island in the middle of the bay. They heard about your reputation and they didn't want to take any chances." He was half joking, but not about Middlebury's hockey reputation.

Men's Hockey

Saturday, March 17

Middlebury	3
Manhattanville	2

Sunday, March 18

Middlebury		3
Oswego State	(OT)	4

At the Championship Banquet Friday night, Master of Ceremonies John Munson quipped that the Frozen Four has, over the years, come to be known as "the Middlebury Invitational." And for good reason: the men had won the previous three championships.

The team's six seniors: Darwin Hunt, Richie Fuld, Brett Shirreffs, Eric LaFreniere, Yev Saidachev and Sales have only added to this remarkable reputation. The team's record over their four years of play has been 97-19-5, thanks to their combined 148 goals and 230 assists.

If you think New England Patriot quarterback Tom Brady's 12-2 record in the playoffs is impressive, try the 24-1 clip owned by these six.

Although comedian Jerry Seinfeld attended Oswego for a few semesters before transferring to Queens College, there was nothing funny about this loss. Tired from almost 73 minutes of grueling hockey and disappointed from not coming out on top, the bus to the airport, the flight to Burlington and the bus home had fewer words than the previous sentence.

While the stands in Sinto S. Wessman Arena were only on one side of the rink, the games played there this weekend were anything but one-sided: all three Frozen Four fights were decided by one goal, as Oswego won both of its games, the first coming against number-one ranked St. Norbert's, in overtime by 4-3 margins.

Middlebury, which came in as the ninth-ranked team in the country, gallantly defeated second-ranked Manhattanville and National Player of the Year winner Andrew Gallant 3-2 to get to the finals.

"I was very pleased with the grit our guys showed after what I thought was a sluggish first period," said Beaney.

Gilchrist opened the scoring with a short-handed goal 26 seconds into the second period, and his linemate McKenna shot the puck past Gallant right before the second period ended to tie it at two. Eighty-nine seconds into the third, Saidachev backhanded the puck, which Hunt and Shirreffs had shot on goal, with the necessary placement to get by the Valiant goalie.

"We had a couple of wacks at it," said Saidachev describing his goal, "I just put it underneath."

Doug Raeder '09 stood his

See Raeder extended, page 22

Jeff Patterson
Eric LaFreniere '07 attempted a wrap around in overtime against Oswego State, but goalie Ryan Scott stopped him.

Moffat makes profit at Laconia

Courtesy
Leslie Moffat '10.5 and her sled dog team finished second at the Laconia World Championship Sled Dog Derby. Read more on page 21.

Cards make it three of a kind

Plattsburgh State outskates Panthers in finals

By Seth Miran
Staff Writer

The mantra for the women's hockey team in the 2005-2006 season was "make every day count." The mantra for the team on Saturday night was "make every second count."

The enduring image from Middlebury's 2-1 loss to the Plattsburgh State Cardinals in the NCAA championship game will be the final 24 seconds. Trailing by a score of 2-1 with 1:11 remaining, Coach Bill Mandigo pulled goalie Lani Wright '10 for an extra skater.

With 24 seconds left, Emily McNamara '07, the smallest player on the ice, stood in front of her empty net to block a point-blank Cardinal shot that would have put the game out of reach. With two seconds remaining, various Panthers dove in front of their own net in order to once again keep the Cardinals from scoring an empty netter. By this time, there was no longer any hope of winning the game. There was only a refusal to quit, regardless of the time left on the clock or the inevitable outcome.

This is what will resonate with Middlebury women's hockey fans and players when reminiscing about the championship game, not the final score.

The final score, however, was not in Middlebury's favor. In a press conference the day before Saturday's game, Mandigo addressed the level of talent on the Cardinal squad, observing that many of them could be playing at the Division I level if they so chose.

He was not joking.

Women's Hockey

Friday, March 16

Middlebury	5
Wisconsin-Stevens Point	1

Saturday, March 17

Middlebury	1
Plattsburgh State	2

In a rematch of last year's title game — which the Panthers won by a score of 3-1 — the talent-laden Cardinals came out firing. In their smaller arena, they packed it in tightly in their defensive zone and tried to take advantage of quick odd-man rushes up the ice offensively.

This approach paid off exactly 19 minutes into the first period when Cardinal Lindsay Brown skated in on a two-on-one advantage. Brown kept the puck for herself and slid it past the outstretched right pad of Wright to give Plattsburgh a 1-0 lead.

In the two previous match-ups between these two teams this year — both of which Plattsburgh won — the Cardinals notched the first goal as well.

Plattsburgh extended its lead to 2-0 at the 6:38 mark of the second period as Danielle Blanchard made a few nifty moves along the right wing before feeding a backhand pass to a wide-open Shay Bywater, who buried the puck.

In this penalty-filled second period, Middlebury cut the lead in half 10:20 later with a power-play goal by captain Shannon Sylvester '07. Almost immediately after the Cardinals killed off a 5-on-3 power play, the Panthers went up a skater once again. This time, they would not be denied as Sylvester gathered a pass in the slot and slid it through the five

See Women were, page 23

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room: Dave Campbell
Who knows the lacrosse player better? page 20

game to watch

Men's Lacrosse vs. Springfield, Mar. 21 at 4:00

Fighting in hockey:
Two *Campus* writers drop their gloves and attack the issue, page 22